Oxfordshire Guardian
Abingdon, Wantage and Faringdon
Thursday, October 5 - Wednesday, October 11, 2017 oxfordshireguardian.co.uk Free

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Tributes paid after man's body found in woodland

Friends shocked at death of 'lovely, kind young man'

By Eva Astreinidou

FRIENDS and loved ones have been paying tribute to a 25-year-old man whose body was found in woodland near Abingdon.

Police confirmed the body is that of missing Abingdon man, Matthew Wilson.

Officers made the discovery in Lower Radley just after 1pm on Saturday. Matthew had been missing for four days.

He was last seen in Eason Drive, Abingdon, on Tuesday last week at 6.45am when he left to catch a train from Radley station to London for work, but never arrived.

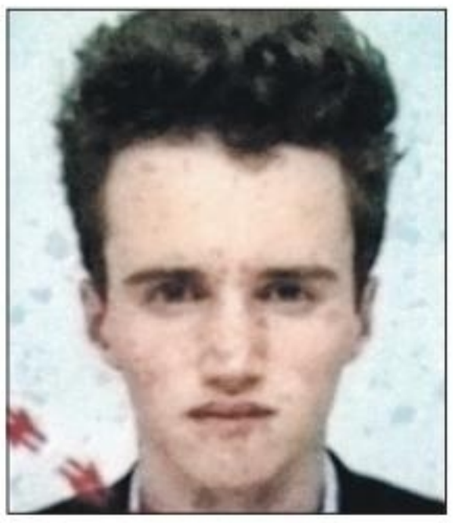
The death is being treated as unexplained, but is not at this stage, believed to be suspicious.

Friends and acquaintances reacted with shock on social media.

Ubaid Ansari posted on Facebook: "Such terrible news.

"Matthew was such a lovely, kind young man. Deepest condolences to Matthew's family and friends."

Chloe Parrott said: "So sad. Such a lovely person at school. Rest in peace Matthew."



Matthew Wilson was found in Lower Radley on Saturday

Lizzie Tandy posted: "Such sad news. My thoughts and prayers are with the family."

Caren Evans added: "That's heartbreaking news. Thoughts, love and prayers for his friends, family and all those involved with the search. Especially whoever found him."

Police are asking for anyone who has information relating to this case to call 101 or to contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 5551111.

Baking to boost coffers for coffee morning

SCHOOLCHILDREN stood proudly with the baked goods they had made as part of a special charity appeal.

The pupils from John Mason School, Abingdon, held a Macmillan coffee morning last Friday to raise funds for the cancer care charity.

The whole school baked and bought cakes and shared them with their peers.

Headteacher Sarah Brinkley said: "It was a wonderful atmosphere, showing what our children do best, value each other and show the difference they can make in the world."

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If you suspect abuse, report it, urge police

By Eva Astreinidou

POLICE are urging people to 'open their eyes to abuse' and report crimes that otherwise go undetected.

An 18-month campaign has been launched this week called Hidden Harm which sheds light on under-reported issues.

Modern slavery, domestic abuse, child abuse, hate crime and female genital mutilation are just some of the topics of which Thames Valley Police hopes to raise awareness.

Detective Superintendent Nick John, head of protecting vulnerable people, said: "Everyone has a role to play in safeguarding."

The focus of the campaign this month will be modern slavery. Det Supt John added: "It's a common misconception that slavery doesn't exist anymore or that it's a crime that doesn't affect us here in the UK. This couldn't be further from the truth.

"Modern slavery is happening in this country and, more specifically, right here in Thames Valley.

"We rely on information from members of the public in order to identify these crimes, safeguard victims and bring offenders to justice. We cannot do this alone."

According to TVP, an average of three modern slavery crimes were recorded every week across the region in the last year.

Modern slavery takes many forms including sexual exploitation, forced labour, criminal exploitation in which victims are forced to commit crimes such as theft, cannabis cultivation or drug trafficking.

Beyond October, the campaign will tackle child abuse in March, while honour-based abuse, which includes forced marriage and FGM, will be the focus in May and June.

Assistant Chief Constable Jason Hogg said: "We will be bringing a number of different abuse-related crimes, which often go undetected or unreported, into the spotlight.

"The consequences of all of these crimes can be life-changing. By being hidden, a victim remains at risk of further abuse which could lead to serious injury or in some cases, even death. The message underpinning our Hidden Harm campaign is simple – open your eyes to abuse. It could be happening in your community, so if you suspect it, report it."

Detective Superintendent Nick John

Breaking stigma of mental health

PEOPLE in Oxfordshire are hoping to break the stigma attached to mental health.

A mental health charity is compiling a special book while Witney's town councillors are making pledges to look after their own mental health as part of a worldwide event on October 10.

In the run-up to world mental health day Oxfordshire Mind are inviting people to submit contributions such as photos, artwork, poems or literature, to a book.

The 'Olympic relay' style event will collect contributions from schools, colleges and businesses all over the county, culminating in an event at Oxford county hall at 4.30pm, where the book will be submitted to the county council leader Ian Hudspeth.

Witney Town Council are also doing their bit for world mental health day.

Working in conjunction with Oxfordshire mental health partnership and charities, the council is throwing a series of community engagement activities at the Corn Exchange in Witney for the day.

The aim is for businesses to learn how they can support employees who may be affected by mental ill-health, which is the leading cause of sickness absence in the UK.

The aim of the campaign is to get local workplaces and schools talking about mental health.

The event is open to the public between 10am and 3pm on October 10.

To submit a piece to Oxfordshire Mind's book, email wmhd@oxfordshiremind.org.uk.

Alternatively, visit tinyurl.com/ybd4cfj5, or use #OxMindWMHD on social media.

The Stagecoach charity champions from left, Gerry Fletcher - Witney depot; Lea Perry - Oxford depot; Colin Stanton - Oxford Tube and Paul Rouse - Oxford depot with Lucy Walker, community fundraising manager Helen & Douglas House

Bus leftovers bring change to charity funds

A BUS company collected over £3,000 for a local children's hospice just from forgotten change and unclaimed belongings on their buses.

A group of 'charity champions' from Stagecoach in Oxfordshire presented a cheque for £3,367 to the company's chosen local charity, Helen & Douglas House, last week.

The impressive donation was the sum of unclaimed money handed into the company's lost property department by drivers and engineering staff over the past 12 months.

Lucy Walker, fundraising manager from Helen & Douglas House, said: "We were astonished that so much money had been left on the buses in Oxfordshire. We're really grateful to the entire team here at Stagecoach for choosing Helen & Douglas House.

"Whether it's a £5 note or a five pence piece, every single penny counts in helping us to care for terminally ill young people in our region."

Karen Coventry, Stagecoach in Oxfordshire business development manager, said: "The unclaimed cash is made up of loose change and the contents of wallets where we have not been able to trace the owner and have had no contact. We've been supporting Helen & Douglas House for over three years now, and we're always looking for fun ways to raise money.

"It's incredible to think such a lot of money gets left on the bus. It's good to know that it's going to such a worthy cause."

Homes proposed for barracks

By George Welch

AROUND 1,200 homes could be built at Dalton Barracks as part of plans to deal with Oxford's unmet housing need and the Didcot Garden Town project.

Part two of the Vale of the White Horse Local Plan includes a further 600 homes on land adjacent to Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor and smaller sites around Marcham (120 homes) and East Hanney (130).

Altogether, the potential 2,050 homes takes up the bulk of the 2,200 the authority needs to build following a housing overspill from Oxford.

In addition, the Vale has allocated 1,400 homes to support the garden town project in Didcot and Science Vale.

These will be based mainly at Harwell Campus so housing is close to new jobs and public transport.

Following feedback on the previous draft, proposals for a development west of Harwell (100) and north east of Marcham (400) have been removed from the plan.

Vale leader Cllr Matthew Barber said: "The Vale Local Plan is a hugely important document which guides how our communities will grow over the coming years.

"It is absolutely vital we get this right to ensure that homes are built in sustainable locations and with the appropriate infrastructure to support."

The council said that developing Dalton Barracks, a largely brownfield former MOD site, would "provide an opportunity for a sustainable development [and] provide a new community with a range of services and facilities".

This includes potential new schools, a local centre and employment opportunities.

The Kingston Bagpuize development is expected to re-route the A415 out of the existing village and effectively provide a bypass, as well as a new primary school.

The Vale adopted part one of its Local Plan last year, in which it allocated the majority of the homes and infrastructure the district needs for the next 15 years, including some of Oxford's unmet need.

A number of these houses are already built or have been granted planning permission.

Part two is due to be published on Wednesday next week and submitted to the government early next year.

For more information on the Vale Local Plan visit whitehorsedc.gov.uk/localplan.

Abbey pool shaping up for 2018

THE £1.3 million project to refurbish the much-loved Abbey Meadow pool is starting to take shape.

The revamp at Abingdon's outdoor pool will take six months to complete and it is hoped the facility will reopen in time for summer 2018.

The aim is to join the two existing pools together to create one large pool with a beach-style walk-in area.

Councillor Charlotte Dickson, cabinet member for leisure at Vale of White Horse District Council, said: "It's great to see work starting on this major refurbishment and I look forward to seeing the improvements taking shape prior to the re-opening next year.

"We have made a significant investment into the outdoor pool and the wider Abbey Meadow area. When the pool re-opens it will be accessible for many more people in the community and will provide a much-improved facility for all visitors."

Other plans include a new look for the changing areas and making changes to improve accessibility.

New energy-efficient lighting and equipment will also help cut maintenance and operational costs.

The Vale announced the rebuilding of Abingdon's outdoor pool in the summer after more than 700 people signed a petition calling for it to be renovated.

In September, three months after the opening of Abbey Meadow play park, parents of children with disabilities called for more provision and accessible toilets for all youngsters using the facilities.

This, alongside a 'need for more changing tables', prompted a petition of more than 300 signatures.

An artist's impression of the new Abbey Meadow pool and Vale leader Matthew Barber and Councillor Charlotte Dickson in the summer before the work started

InBrief

Attack during theft

A MAN who confronted a thief outside his house had to be taken to hospital after he was sprayed in the face with an 'unknown substance'.

A man in his forties noticed a theft from a table outside his home in Brendon Close, Didcot.

He confronted the offender and an altercation took place. He then sprayed an unknown substance in the victim's face.

The victim was taken to hospital after sustaining irritation to his eyes.

Police were called to the incident at 1.37am on Monday last week and are appealing for witnesses.

A 27-year-old man from Didcot was arrested on suspicion of theft and grievous bodily harm with intent and a 48-year-old man from Didcot was arrested on wounding with intent. They have both been released under investigation.

If you have information, call 101.

Fair road closures

ABINGDON'S Michaelmas street fair returns on Monday and Tuesday, with traffic restrictions in place.

Road restrictions apply from 8.30am on Sunday until 9am on Wednesday.

High Street, Market Place, Stratton Way (from its junction with Bath Street to Ock Street), The Square, and West St Helen Street will be closed to vehicles for the duration. Temporary one-way traffic will be imposed in Lombard Street.

A temporary 'no waiting' restriction will be imposed on all, or sections of, Bostock Road, Edward Street, Mullard Way, Victoria Road and Spring Road.

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Twinning trip to boost links with schools in France

TWO members of Didcot's twinning association enjoyed a school trip of a different kind when they visited the southeastern French town of Meylan.

School liaison for the association Diane Jenkins and Penny Wilde made the four-day trip last month with the objective of developing links between schools in the two towns.

Mrs Jenkins said: "Our aim was to meet the teachers we had been working with for the last two years to try to get a better understanding of what they hoped to achieve from these links for their pupils…then to be able to explain that better to the teachers in Didcot, and vice versa.

"The teachers we met were all very keen these links would work. A lot of time and effort has gone into the letters by teachers and pupils."

The pair visited primary and secondary schools and initial plans are in place to set up more links, such as 'e-pals', between the English and French pupils.

Of the two main primary schools visited, one already has excellent links with East Hagbourne CofE primary school. Another, which also teaches English, is keen to develop similar links with Didcot primary schools.

A party of 16 residents from the German twinned town of Planegg arrive in Didcot today (Thursday) and will be hosted by local families.

Visit didcottwinning.org.uk for more information on the twining association.

Man's best friends join 185-mile Thames walk

ONE man and his dog – or rather 15 of them – have been walking the River Thames hoping to inspire others and raise vital charity funds.

Chris Wood is walking 185 miles from the source in Wiltshire to the Thames Barrier in London and aims to get 500 legs walking to raise funds to support the walk of the Mast Cell Action charity.

Chris, from London, is a trustee of the charity and has for the last week been walking along the stretch from Godstow through Abingdon to Wallingford.

The four legs of each of the 15 dogs who will be joining him plus his own two make up 62 of the legs - and Chris hopes to be joined by another 438 to reach his target.

But he's also looking for creative entries to join him - walking with a dog, a pony and a parrot would make 12 legs alongside him.

The charity is raising awareness of Mast Cell Activation Syndrome in which sufferers' immune systems have occasional violent adverse reactions to everyday activities such as eating or exercise.

To find out more about the charity and how you can support Chris go to mastcellaction.org/500-legs

Chris Wood with Monty the retriever about to embark on the walk and left, Henry the labradoodle who joined him on one of the legs

InBrief

Burglary charge

A MAN has been charged after an aggravated burglary incident at a shop in Mill Street, Wantage.

Tom Skelton, 29, of no fixed address, was charged on Monday, September 25 in connection with the incident the day before and appeared at Oxford Magistrates' Court the following day.

He has been remanded in custody and is due to appear at Oxford Crown Court on October 27.

Panto auditions

AUDITIONS for roles in Sinodun Players' 2018 pantomime Cinderella will take place next week.

Auditions for individuals and chorus roles take place on October 10 and 12 at St John's School, Wallingford.

Rehearsals start on October 16 and the panto is due to be performed at the Corn Exchange, Wallingford, from January 12 to 27.

Festival help call

THE future of the annual summer festival in Wantage is in your hands.

New leaders are needed for the summer festival, with applications accepted until the end of this month.

The co-chairs are stepping down and help is now needed with overseeing legal, admin, PR and marketing and events coordination.

If you are interested, contact sylwiapresley@gmail.com.

Fly-tipper caught as he dumped asbestos

By Eva Astreinidou

A FLY-TIPPER who was caught red-handed has been ordered to pay £900 after admitting he dumped hazardous asbestos waste.

Dean Paul Smith, 36, of Blackthorn Road, Didcot, pleaded guilty to the charge of unlawfully depositing waste and failing to provide information regarding the identification of the driver of the vehicle from which the waste was deposited.

He appeared at Oxford Magistrates' Court on September 19 when the court heard how, on February 6, a member of the public contacted the police after seeing two men unloading waste from a vehicle on land off Mill Road in Abingdon.

When the police arrived they found the pair trying to move the vehicle that had got stuck in the mud as they attempted to leave the site.

They claimed they had stopped at the site to eat lunch, when the vehicle got stuck and they decided to remove the waste in order to lighten the load to free the van.

Dean Smith and the unnamed driver caught fly-tipping in Abingdon earlier this year

But due to the quantity of rubbish involved, and the hazardous nature of the rubbish, officers from Vale of White Horse District Council investigated the case.

Smith, who was the passenger in the vehicle, was given a £400 fixed penalty notice for the offence, but after failing to pay this money council officers had to prosecute the case in court.

He also declined to name the driver of the vehicle.

Cllr Elaine Ware, cabinet member for environmental health at Vale, said: "Whatever the circumstances involved fly-tipping is always a real blight on society.

"It costs thousands in public money to clean up and investigate, and is potentially dangerous, especially if, like in this case, it is hazardous waste such as asbestos."

Have your say on homes plan for former school site

RESIDENTS are invited to have their say on proposals to build 150 homes on an old school site in Wantage.

The 'high quality neighbourhood development' plans are for the former Icknield School site on Springfield Road.

The scheme will include 40 per cent affordable homes and range from one-bedroom apartments to five bedroom homes.

Residents have until October 25 to comment on the Bovis Homes plans. A target decision date for the application is December 19.

King Alfred's Academy, which owns the site, is holding a 'farewell' event, with guided tours for anyone wishing to have a last look, on October 22.

There will also be a reunion at the Beacon on October 20 for anyone aged 65 and over who attended the school.

To comment on the application, visit https://tinyurl.com/y7dzla28.

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News

Squadron's 100 years honoured with royal visit

By Eva Astreinidou

THE Princess Royal celebrated the centenary of RAF Brize Norton and paid tribute to past and present members.

No 99 squadron came together to honour staff with a muster and flypast ceremony for the visit from Princess Anne on Thursday last week.

The squadron, which was originally based in Wiltshire, was formed on August 15, 1917 and was involved in bombing raids during the first and second world wars.

Most recently, personnel were involved in a major hurricane relief operation for areas affected by Hurricane Irma.

Officer commanding No 99 squadron, Wing Commander Marc Holland said: "This event is an opportunity to reflect on our illustrious squadron's rich history; its achievements, the constant evolutions to meet each new challenge and the losses we have suffered over the last 100 years."

The squadron was disbanded in 1945 following the Japanese surrender, but reformed in 1949 to take on transportation duties during events such as the Suez crisis.

It was not until 1970 that it moved to RAF Brize Norton – only to be disbanded six years later.

Finally, in 2000, it was announced the No 99 Squadron would be back in action to operate one piece of aircraft, a C-17.

Since then, the fleet has grown to eight aircraft.

Robert Didwell, 97, a former member of No 99 Squadron, who worked as an engineer, said: "It really was a great squadron to serve. I served on other squadrons, but 99 Squadron will always be my best memories. I'm very pleased I was invited to come today."

Princess Anne last visited the base in July, to celebrate the centenary of No 101 squadron.

Bra-ve Helen's raising awareness in M&S ad

AN Oxfordshire woman is taking part in a national pink bra campaign to turn a cancer diagnosis that 'rocked her world' into something positive.

Helen Peedell, 52, was told she had breast cancer in 2016 but has now joined six other women as part of the M&S Breast Cancer Now campaign to help raise awareness.

The Abingdon mum-of-two will be modelling one of the pink bras, which will be promoted to donate 20 per cent of sales for lifesaving research during October's breast cancer awareness month.

Helen was diagnosed with grade 3 inter-ductal breast cancer in September 2016.

During the past year, she has undergone chemotherapy, a double mastectomy and radiotherapy.

Speaking about her experience, she said: "I was determined that it wouldn't take away my sense of humour or my life with my husband and two children, so I vowed to fight it with everything I had. I've met so many amazing people; patients, doctors, nurses and health care assistants and they inspired me to do everything I could to raise awareness of breast cancer, to get people to check themselves for an early diagnosis, to not be embarrassed by their bodies and to love themselves no matter what.

"I decided to show people that this disease shouldn't stop you being who you are. I want to show women that you can still look beautiful and glamorous in gorgeous underwear after surgery.

"So let's keep on raising awareness and get women all over the country to check themselves and turn our stories into something positive."

To kick-start the campaign, Helen and the other women drew on their own personal experiences to create a short film entitled Love, Laughter, Life and Breast Cancer: In Our Words.

In the 60-second video they describe their individual attitudes and approach to a life affected by breast cancer.

Throughout October, their images will be used across UK stores, including Oxford, and the M&S website and social media channels.

The Princess Royal made her second visit to RAF Brize Norton this year
Pictures: *Paul Crouch MOD Crown Copyright*

Plan submitted to create brain-belt between cities

Road would link Oxford and Cambridge to make 'economic powerhouse'

By George Welch

PLANS to transform the corridor between Oxford and Cambridge into the UK's version of Silicon Valley and create 'a new economic powerhouse' have been submitted to the government.

Oxfordshire Growth Board has finished its round of discussions with the National Infrastructure Commission over the proposed 'growth corridor' between the two university cities.

Following 18 months of work, the Commission can now make its recommendations to the government on how to maximise the economic potential of the 130-mile corridor that links the cities.

Councillor Bob Price, leader of Oxford City Council, and current chair of the Growth Board, said: "With world class centres like Harwell, Culham and Oxford itself, Oxfordshire is already a knowledge-intensive cluster that competes on a global stage.

"Working with the NIC, the Growth Board has focused on the opportunity to strengthen the knowledge arc – or brain-belt – linking Oxford through Milton Keynes to Cambridge.

"There is the potential to create a new economic powerhouse for the UK, while protecting our high quality environment, and securing the homes the area needs."

The Growth Board has contributed a long-term vision for transport across the county to help the NIC's work and has focused on the first/last mile of transport in Oxford – between the city's railway station and people's homes or workplaces.

The project aims to grow the knowledge-based economy in the corridor so that it competes on a global stage with areas such as Silicon Valley in the US.

Last year, the NIC called on ministers to accelerate plans for the 'expressway' road between Oxford and Cambridge, as well as restoring a railway link between the two by the early 2030s.

Leader of Oxfordshire County Council Ian Hudspeth has previously told us: "We have long argued that East West Rail and the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway can be a catalyst to bring the region together to deliver the housing that is required in the region, as well as the connectivity it will need to compete with the best in the world."

The NIC's recommendations will be taken into consideration by the government for its infrastructure spending announcement in the Autumn Budget, to be revealed on November 22.

InBrief

Teenager assaulted

TWO men assaulted a teenage boy and tried to get him into a vehicle in Oxford.

Police are asking for witnesses to come forward following the incident on September 19.

The 16-year-old boy was walking in Howard Street around 7.20pm when two men got out of a parked blue Audi RS6 and assaulted him.

They tried to get him into the vehicle, but the boy ran off, unhurt.

It is believed there were three men in the car. The driver is described as black, 6ft tall, with a large build, dark clothing and had a motorbike helmet. He is believed to have spoken with a London accent.

The front seat passenger is thought to be Eastern European. He is described as 6ft tall, wearing a dark blue hooded top, with short brown hair. He was believed to be holding a knife.

The rear passenger was described as Asian and had a ponytail.

Join heart trek

OXFORD trekkers are invited to go the distance to help fight heart disease with entries open for the British Heart Foundation London to Oxford trek on May 12 and 13.

You can take on either 50km or the full 100km, within 30 hours, to help raise money for research projects. For early bird entry fees register by the end of the month on bhf.org.uk/treks.

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News

Housing could pave the way for improved roads

By Eva Astreinidou

PLANS to build 183 new homes could bring better road networks to the town of Watlington.

Developed in line with Watlington's neighbourhood plan, the scheme would also help to address congestion within the town, with the provision for an alternative route to improve traffic flow through the town.

County councillor for Chalgrove and Watlington Steve Harrod said: "It is still very much early days, but I believe the response from the neighbourhood planning group is positive in that it could be part of a larger scheme to try and resolve the traffic problem in the area."

The application for 183 homes on a site off Britwell Road to the west of the town, which was submitted after consultation with the local community, is for a mix of one and two bedroom apartments and two, three and four bedroom homes.

The development will include large areas of open space for the public and 40 per cent affordable housing.

An area of land has also been allocated for employment, with likely uses including offices or research and development to compliment the nearby homes.

The site for the proposed new homes in Watlington

The developers have indicated there will be provision for a route offering an alternative to the current traffic flow.

Senior planning director for developer Bloor Homes South Midlands, David Joseph, said: "We look forward to being able to announce further details about the build schedule and first homes to be released for sale over the coming months."

Jonathan Porter, planning director from developer Archstone added: "After some three years of discussion with the parish council and Neighbourhood Plan Group, it is a positive step forward to have now submitted the application."

South Oxfordshire District Council planning committee will decide on whether the plan will go ahead in the coming months.

HUNDREDS of gentlefolk from Oxford helped raise over £24,000 by taking part in the world's largest motorcycle charity event.

Over 430 people from Oxford jumped on their classic and vintage styled motorcycles to take part in the annual Distinguished Gentleman's Ride earlier this month, all in the name of the Movember Foundation.

Across the world, more than 91,000 participants in 580 cities across 95 countries came together to support the cause, raising more than £3.3 million collectively.

The Distinguished Gentleman's Ride (DGR) was founded in Australia by Mark Hawwa in 2012, and was first inspired by an image of Mad Men's Don Draper, dressed in a very dapper style astride a classic motorcycle.

Mark decided a themed ride would be a great way to raise the profile and awareness of prostate cancer and men's mental health.

To donate visit www.gentlemansride.com.

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£450m transport boost to deliver 37,000 homes

By Adam Flinn

MAJOR transport improvements around Didcot, the A40 and north Oxford could be on the way after the Oxfordshire Growth Board submitted its bid for more than £450million of government funding.

The money is being sought to support the delivery of more than 37,000 new homes across the county by 2040.

Three separate bids have been submitted to the Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) - £171m for Didcot Garden Town, £135.4m for a West Oxfordshire garden village in Eynsham, and £152m for work to the north of Oxford.

A total of £2.3bn is available from the HIF for major infrastructure projects nationwide.

The highest ranking schemes will go through to a second stage in the spring, with the final funding awards being announced next summer.

Ian Hudspeth, leader of Oxfordshire County Council, said: "We believe all three bids are robust, deliverable and have a good chance of success.

"The funding they seek would lead to significant improvement in infrastructure to support expected growth in jobs and much-needed new housing in a planned way."

The Didcot Garden Town bid includes making the A4130 a dual carriageway, a river crossing at Culham, a 'science bridge' into Milton Park and a Clifton Hampden bypass, as well as £70m of other sustainable transport upgrades.

This would allow for more than 22,000 homes to be built in Didcot, Culham, Harwell and Berinsfield.

South Oxfordshire District Council leader John Cotton said: "Significant improvement in the local roads and other transport networks are a must if we are to cope with the housing growth Oxfordshire needs.

"I am certain the bid will secure the investment needed to give the local economy a boost and to improve the quality of life in our area for generations to come."

The bid for the West Oxfordshire garden village would allow for upgrades to the A40 to support more than 10,000 homes in Witney, Carterton and around Eynsham.

The North of Oxford bid would be for rapid transit lines on upgraded A44 and A4260 corridors, a new park and ride and improved cycle infrastructure, to allow for 5,570 homes in Woodstock, Begbroke, Yarnton and the northern gateway.

West Oxfordshire District Council leader James Mills said: "Building homes is a major priority in west Oxfordshire to meet growing demand and ensure our economy is allowed to reach its full potential in future.

"The A40 needs to be fit for purpose to support the needs of our residents and enable development to flourish."

Sharpen up your tech skills at free taster workshops

WOMEN in Bicester and Banbury are being encouraged to apply for full and partial tuition scholarships.

TechPixies, a social enterprise scheme that helps mums and other women get back to work by updating their technical skills, is running free taster sessions in North Oxfordshire.

Sessions will take place on Wednesday, October 11, at Bloxham Mill Business Centre, and on Friday, November 17, at Stack and Jones Accountants in Stratton Audley.

To book enter code TPNEWS via website techpixies.com

We would be delighted if you would join us for a community open day at **Millcroft,** our senior living scheme.

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SEASON
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News

Mum hopes to whizz around city to raise Wizzybug funds

By George Welch

A FULL-TIME mum is gearing up to run the Oxford Half Marathon on Sunday to help more children with a disability have access to a free powered wheelchair.

Caroline McNicoll, 33, from Headington, decided to take on the challenge when she saw how her daughter benefits from using a Wizzybug.

The fun, powered wheelchair is designed for children aged 14 months to five years with a disability.

Caroline's three-year-old daughter Florence has a profound motor disorder that restricts her ability to walk or move around independently.

After a couple of years being immobile and having to watch the other children, she got a free Wizzybug powered wheelchair.

Florence received her wheelchair in September last year and will have it until she outgrows it. Most tots outgrow it at the age of five.

Caroline, who is racing in her first half marathon, said the contraption has given her little one a new found freedom.

She said: "I can't even describe how amazing it has been having a Wizzybug.

"This has been the first time that Florence has been able to decide where to go and when.

"It has given her a sense of independence and she has really come on in leaps and bounds since having got it."

Now, Caroline, who is also a part-time volunteer at her church, wants to help other children enjoy the same experience as her daughter.

She added: "I'd so love to raise some money to make it possible for other children to have the chances that this has given to Florence."

The buggy was designed by charity Designability, which relies on fundraising to build, maintain and loan out Wizzybugs free of charge to children across the UK.

The charity said the Wizzybugs are needed because the NHS doesn't generally fund powered wheelchairs for children under the age of five.

At the moment, the fleet of Wizzybugs are loaned out to 308 children with cerebral palsy, spina bifida, spinal muscular atrophy and other conditions which prevent children from walking unaided.

Caroline has already raised £2,100 for the charity.

To sponsor her visit tinyurl.com/ya4f3843.

Get a pizza the marathon action and row for dough

AFTER you've run 13 miles around the city of dreaming spires why not take part in the Row for Dough challenge?

Set up by brothers Thom and James Elliot who run Pizza Pilgrims, they are inviting runners to test out their skill on the rowing machine in the marathon race village and see how far they can get in 60 seconds.

The top 10 rowers will get to enjoy dinner for two at the new Pizza Pilgrims outlet opening in the Westgate on October 24.

The restaurant is the brothers' – who spent much of their childhood growing up in west Oxfordshire – first outside London.

InBrief

Teenager still in hospital after crash

A 17-year-old boy is still in hospital with serious injuries after a car flipped over on a country road.

Police are looking for witnesses following a serious injury collision on Middle Street between the villages of Oddington and Islip in Oxfordshire just over two weeks ago.

On September 15, between 9.30pm and 10.30pm, a silver Volkswagen Polo left the road and overturned.

The teenage boy from Headington, who was a passenger in the vehicle, was admitted to the John Radcliffe Hospital after suffering serious injuries.

If you have any information, contact 101.

Christmas funding

GROUPS in the Vale looking to hold an event in the run up to Christmas can apply for grant funding from the district council.

More than £7,500 is available to support local festivals and events organised by non-profit community organisations.

Grants of up to £1,000 per application are available – they can cover up to 75 per cent of the total cost of staging an event that is open to the community with at least 100 people.

Visit www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/grants for more.

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News

Connor Sparrowhawk died tragically aged 18, left alone by people who should have been caring for him. **George Welch** spoke to his mum Sara Ryan as she launches her book telling of the real Connor and her struggle for justice in his name

'Connor died because he wasn't seen as a fully human person or being. He was more than human to us'

Pictures: *Justice4LB*

HIS mum spent about 15 minutes carefully explaining what she was going to do and how the boy wasn't, under any circumstances, to move from the settee.

She rehearsed and re-rehearsed every scenario she could think of to make sure he fully understood that, no matter what, he was to stay put.

If the postman knocked or a parcel was delivered, a friend called round or the dog wanted to go out in the back garden, he was to stay put.

She would be gone for a matter of minutes as she dashed 50 metres to the local Co-op to pick up some milk – but the moment the front door slammed shut she realised she'd forgotten her key.

Sara Ryan, the mother of Connor Sparrowhawk, who died in a bath while supposedly under close NHS supervision, documented copious funny stories and mishaps in a blog documenting what it was like to care for a child with autism, epilepsy and learning disabilities.

Sara did eventually coax Connor, who was seven or eight years old at the time, off the sofa and convince him to open the window so she could clamber back into the house.

"You know everything I just told you? Forget it! It's your mum, Connor!", she screamed through hysterical laughter after being resolutely ignored.

Laughing Boy

Connor was known to his family as Laughing Boy because of how much they heard him doing just that.

He died in July 2013, aged just 18, drowning after a seizure with no staff there to help him.

When his behaviour worsened earlier in the year his struggling family turned to the professionals for help, entrusting carers at Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust's Slade House care facility in Headington to look after him.

Connor's family had cared for him for more than 18 years – but after 107 days at the residential unit he died.

Sara, an Oxford academic who specialises in learning disabilities and autism, has written a book about her experiences with the health trust, which eventually admitted the death of her son was preventable.

The book documents Connor's home life and the events leading up to his death, the fall out afterwards and the launch of the #Justice4LB campaign group.

It provides a heart-breaking perspective of losing a child, but also sheds light on an under resourced and resource-driven system that, Sara says, "strips away any humanity and any imagined future" from those with learning disabilities.

"When I started the blog, it was because people said I should write a book about Connor about six years ago because he was so funny – I was always going to write a book," Sara explained.

'Mainstream'

A flag devoted to Connor has been flown at Glastonbury music festival, a dedicated walk in Spain stretched his story to mainland Europe and Sara's niece included the battle for justice in her undergraduate dissertation.

The Justice4LB campaign has gathered momentum since his death four years ago and Connor, who had pop-star hair and was adored by his three brothers and sister, would have loved to know he had become 'mainstream'.

It took nine months to make people aware of the severity of what had happened, but since then, his story has made headline news in newspapers and on television sets across the country.

"I'm feeling pleased because Connor always wanted to be mainstream and he died because he wasn't perceived to be mainstream. It took a long time for there to be serious interest in what happened – so now I think 'he's made it'," Sara said.

What happened to Connor is helping to change the way people think about how those with learning disabilities should be treated.

But a lack of subsequent changes implemented within the NHS has left Sara frustrated and questioning the success of the campaign.

"Getting a better mainstream

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understanding of what's going on and what's wrong [is one of TeamLB's main successes]. We have made great steps forward but it hasn't actually translated into change…[but] we've shone a light on a lot of crap," she admitted.

"This might be a shift. This isn't typically a mainstream topic so maybe this groundswell will force people to open their eyes."

The social movement born out of the pain of losing Connor has been widespread and, without Justice4LB's determination, the circumstances surrounding Connor's death would have been hidden from public scrutiny.

Achieving accountability for Connor's death has proven a 'gargantuan' task, with the last four years being a mixture of "exhausting, enraging, distressing and heart-warming" for Sara and her family, including partner Richard Huggins, a political scientist.

"We had no idea that Connor's death would generate a ground breaking social movement and lead to the uncovering of systematic failure to investigate the deaths of certain patients in the UK," she said.

Bus mad

Connor was mad for buses and coaches. He couldn't get enough of them. A collection of old tickets, models and magazines – you name it – littered the family home in Headington.

In fact, the home remains full of bus-related memorabilia now, acting as a constant and warm reminder of one of Connor's most treasured passions.

Connor was 'buzzing' on the morning of his death when he woke up looking forward to a tour of the Oxford Bus Company.

After he died, the firm sent the family an Oxford Bus die-cast model. Sara, visibly moved when discussing the heart-warming reaction of supporters and the public, said: "People did such lovely things.

"There are so many poignant things like that, the fact that his last thoughts, other than probably me, would have been the bus company."

To mark his first birthday after passing away, the family had a party at the Oxfordshire Bus Museum in Long Hanborough. A box of hundreds of bus tickets was scattered on his grave.

One of the main things that struck Connor's family when he approached 18 was the lack of aspiration attached to his future, particularly by social services.

However, Connor had ambitious plans – he wanted to own a haulage company and marry a beautiful, brown-eyed woman.

His mum believes he would have been great at a job that worked closely with his interests, which centred primarily on buses and coaches.

Just six per cent of learning disabled adults and 16 per cent of autistic adults are in employment in the UK.

Sara is fearful this won't improve until social care begins to treat people like Connor as a human with aspirations.

'We had no idea Connor's death would generate a ground breaking social movement and lead to the uncovering of systematic failure to investigate the deaths of certain patients in the UK'

She added: "Connor was so pleasant to be around and he could have made a contribution to the social life of the workplace, which is completely overlooked.

"There's a lack of recognition that certain people have something to contribute. If you see somebody as a burden as opposed to someone who can offer something, you are automatically doing them down."

What's in a label?

Sara is a smart, funny woman – and she has a keen eye for injustice.

She has fought Southern Health, which originally claimed Connor died of natural causes, and helped bring about major investigations into how NHS organisations mistreat those with learning disabilities and record 'unexplained' deaths.

Injustices have been fought in reports, investigations and the courts, but for Sara the injustices begin when people are first diagnosed.

Connor was diagnosed with autism at the age of three (he was 16 when diagnosed with epilepsy) and for his early years his family subscribed to the negative view that it would hold him back.

"Him being labelled [with autism] as a tot was devastating, it seemed such a negative thing," Sara said.

"Then you stepped back and looked at him; there was nothing wrong with him, he's just different, but by that point the label defined him [in the health/care system]."

But this didn't hold Connor back – he was, to his family, 'just Connor', a young man who refused to be defined by labels.

Sara said: "Once we got over our fixation with it [the labels], he of course was dealing with life in his own brilliant way. He had a wonderful time at secondary school [John Watson].

"He was so comfortable with himself and was so confident. He had interests he really enjoyed and he was lovely to hang out with.

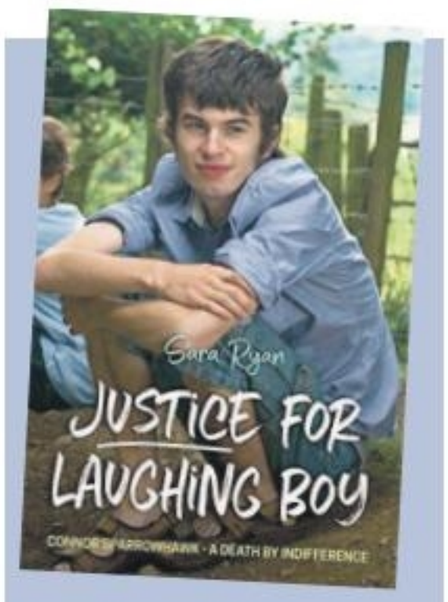
"His sort of confidence was undeterred by the limitations imposed on him by an unfit-for-purpose system."

Sara believes autism and learning disability labels 'eclipse' engagement with actual health issues, and this, as a result, contributes to the premature mortality of learning disabled people in the UK.

She added: "Connor died because he wasn't seen as a fully human person or being. He was more than human to us.

"Too often, people like Connor are disregarded, dismissed, lead impoverished lives and die preventable deaths."

Southern Health pleaded guilty to breaching health and safety law at Banbury Magistrates' Court last month. A date has not been set for sentencing, contrary to media reports.



Justice for Laughing Boy is available in book stores and online at Amazon. Visit tinyurl.com/ybooua75 for more information or to buy a copy.

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Shopping centre rail station bags honour

By Samantha McGregor

A BICESTER station – which re-opened in 2015 as part of a major rail expansion – has won an award.

Bicester Village Station, which was re-built as part of the multi-million project to create a new link from Oxford to London Marylebone, was named Small Station of the Year at the National Rail Awards.

In making the award, the National Rail Awards judges highlighted the "thoughtful customer service touch" by providing foreign language signage to cater for the large numbers of customers visiting the shopping destination.

They also said that the new facility sets a new, incredibly high, standard for small stations.

The station, operated by Chiltern Railways, has a dedicated entrance to Bicester Village designer outlet centre as well as a general entrance.

Chiltern Railways was also highly commended in the Passenger Operator of the Year category.

The judges praised the high-quality customer service, excellent operational performance and a competitive determination to successfully expand the market in the region served.

Dave Penney, managing director of Chiltern Railways, said: "We are very proud that Bicester Village Station has been recognised as the Small Station of the Year at the National Rail Awards.

"The station has seen over two million passengers make journeys through since opening and this award is a credit to the station staff who strive to ensure the customers come first."

Community relations director of Bicester Village Miranda Markham said: "We congratulate Chiltern Railways on their success at the National Rail Awards.

"The number of overall visitors arriving by train has more than doubled since the opening of the station which has wide appeal for both domestic and international visitors and local residents."

Bicester Village Station was previously called Bicester Town Station and caused controversy in the town after it was renamed.

In June, Chiltern Railways announced in the 18 months after the launch of the new London route, more than a million passengers had travelled through Oxford Parkway.

Walking in her husband's name

A WOMAN who lost her husband to a brain tumour walked 11 miles to raise awareness for the devastating and 'indiscriminating' cancer.

Mum of two Juliet Legg, from Sonning Common, was inspired to take part in the Grant Union canal walk over the weekend, in her husband's memory.

Her husband Nigel passed away from a brain tumour in June 2012 at the age of 49, just six weeks after he received the diagnosis of a grade four glioblastoma multiforme.

He left Juliet and their two teenage boys, Michael and Jamie.

Juliet, 49, and her son Jamie completed the walk to celebrate Nigel's life and raise vital funds for 'underfunded' brain tumour research.

She said: "Research into this disease is really important to me, as brain tumours can affect anyone at any age, but no one knows what causes them."

The walkers started at the Three Locks pub in Stoke Hammond, travelling five and a half miles to the Grove Lock pub, to enjoy a picnic or pub lunch.

Paula Rastrick, community fundraising manager at brain tumour research, said: "All of those taking part in the walk know only too well the devastation a brain tumour causes. There is a strong sense of fellowship and sharing an experience, which is a very positive thing.

Juliet Legg and husband Nigel who died from a brain tumour

"Brain tumours are indiscriminate; they can affect anyone, at any age […] yet just one per cent of the national spend on cancer research has been allocated to this devastating disease."

To donate to Juliet and Jamie, visit http://www.justgiving.com/JulietandJamie.

Girls in a twirl over contest success

THE hard work paid off for a team of young gymnasts as they scooped gold, silver and bronze trophies at a regional team twirling competition.

Banbury Cross Twirlers – who are aged from five to 19 – competed in the East Midlands Championships at Lutterworth, Leicester, last month.

Twirling is a combination of gymnastics and dance performed while twirling batons and pom poms and is a growing sport worldwide.

Coach Nichola Halford said: "The girls have been working on these routines throughout the summer holidays and their hard work paid off at the competition.

"There were great performances from everyone and there is a fantastic team spirit in the whole group."

The girls' parents kept up the good work by winning the gold medal in the Adult Pom Pom section, dressing as the Village People and dancing to the group's 1979 hit YMCA.

Banbury Cross Twirlers are members of the British Baton Twirling Sports Association and compete in competitions in this country and abroad.

Ms Halford said: "New members are welcome, and we train every Monday at Ruscote Hall at 6pm and every Wednesday at North Oxfordshire Academy at 6pm.

"We take children aged four years upwards."

For more information email banburycrosstwirlers@gmail.com

Having a whale of a time with conservation project

OXFORDSHIRE primary schools have joined thousands of UK children to take part in a whale-sized project throughout October.

Marine conservation charity ORCA has launched its first Whale Education Month to coincide with World Animal Day yesterday.

The scheme aims to inspire pupils about the wonders of whales and dolphins – and maybe even inspire the next generation of marine biologists – by providing teachers with free resources.

The project provides three hour-long sessions about the rich wildlife that lives in UK and European waters, shining a light on whales, dolphins and porpoises that live right on our doorstep.

The teacher's pack includes interactive presentations, activities and games and is available to all teachers.

Schools from Witney, Cutteslowe and Oxford have signed up so far.

Visit tinyurl.com/yac3m5o3 for more information and to request a teaching pack.

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The Free Wills Month charities are paying for a limited number of simple Wills.
If your Will is complex, you can pay the solicitor for extra advice. There is no obligation to include a gift to any of the charities. The campaign is intended for those aged 55 and over.
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News

InBrief

GP surgery at JR

A portacabin-style GP surgery will be built outside the John Radcliffe hospital to help alleviate pressure during the winter months.

The hospital is planning to set up the portable building outside its emergency department to speed up patient admissions starting from early 2018.

The new facility will house up to two doctors and two nurses and will act along the lines of a GP surgery.

Tyre safety check

MOTORISTS can have a free tyre health check later this month to ensure tyres are properly inflated and have a safe tread depth.

According to the county council, more than one in three tyres are driven below the recommended pressure, making vehicles more dangerous in more challenging conditions.

Road safety experts can be found in Tesco car park in Park Road, Faringdon between 10am and 2pm on Tuesday, October 31.

A school of research vessels

By George Welch

BLOOD vessel tunnels, a heart rhythm dance and learning about blood clots through volleyball – who knew learning about science could be such fun?

More than 250 captivated Didcot school kids jumped into the world of science after winning a national competition to spend the day with real-life scientists.

The winners – Year 1 to Year 6 pupils at Willowcroft Community School – enjoyed a workshop about keeping hearts healthy in a fun and interactive way.

One pupil who enjoyed the day was Year 5 pupil Vidula, who said: "It was so much fun. We were passing the ball to see how fast the blood vessels go; we learnt what happens when they get blocked and how they get blocked."

Classmate Jacob added: "I learnt about blood clots, they can cause so much more damage than I thought!"

British Heart Foundation researchers Dr Naveed Akbar and Dr Laurienne Edgar from Oxford University visited Willowcroft after the Mereland Road school won a competition earlier in the year.

The school raised over £540 for the heart charity at a dodgeball event in January, earning them a visit from the scientists.

Year 5 teacher Kirsty Miller said: "We all found the workshop really enjoyable, the children were so engaged and learnt a lot. They were talking about what they had learnt for weeks afterwards."

The BHF has now launched the 'Win A Researcher' competition for a second year.

For more information and to enter visit www.bhf.org.uk/researcherday before February 28.

The pupils crawled through 'blood vessels' and tried operating

Musician permitted to play

A RENOWNED Syrian musician who was refused entry into the UK has had the decision overturned after thousands of people signed a petition.

Ibrahim Keivo, who plays an oud, a traditional wind instrument, applied for a five-day visa to perform at the Oxford Chamber Music festival last week.

The application was turned down by the Home Office but a petition signed by 45,000 people brought about a u-turn.

Mr Keivo was granted asylum in Germany two years ago but was turned down because the applicant's sponsors "must demonstrate that the role could not have been filled by someone already resident in the UK".

Festival director Priya Mitchell, who launched the petition, said: "Being forced to leave his home and losing everything was hard enough. To be refused the opportunity to share his art with us all is simply cruel."

MP for Abingdon and Oxford West Layla Moran said 'it is a relief' the Home Office made a u-turn on the decision.

She said: "Music crosses borders, builds understanding and cultural appreciation and it is only fitting that someone with Ibrahim's unique talents is welcomed as part of our wonderful festival."

A Home Office spokesman said: "Following further representations by Mr Keivo, his application was reviewed and his visa has been granted.

"Mr Keivo has been informed of this decision."

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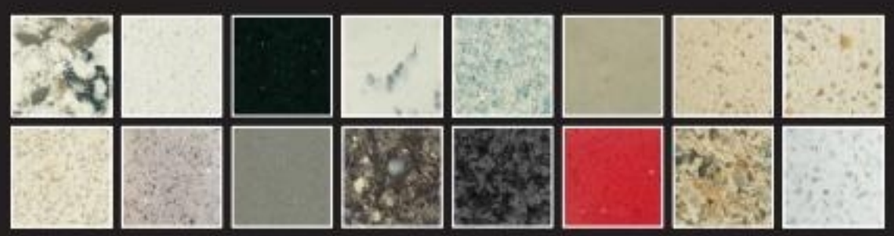

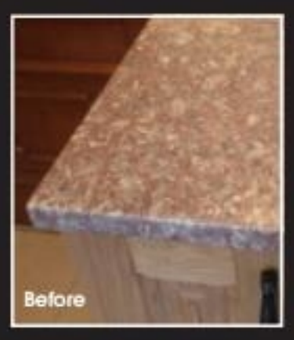

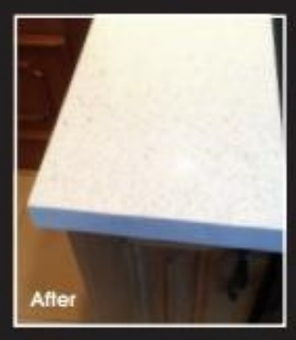

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News

Having a ball to mark 10 years

By Eva Astreinidou

WHAT better way to celebrate your tenth anniversary than with a big glitzy party - and that's exactly what Play2Give did.

The sold-out evening at Didcot Civic Hall helped raise funds for Oxford Children's Hospital and Headway Oxfordshire as part of the charity's anniversary appeal.

Founder and chief organiser Andy Baker, 29, said there was 'no other better way' to celebrate the busiest and biggest year for the charity so far as it surpassed its £10,000 goal.

He said: "It was truly special and inspiring to see so many come out, put their finest black-tie attire on and really have a ball of a time.

"The success of the night made up for all the hard work and at times stress and worry that went in, but as a team we managed to yet again pull it off and for the first one it was incredibly successful.

"I would like to say a massive thank you to my entire ball team, to everyone who supported, all those who contributed and were involved in some way, those who sponsored, and those who dug deep on the night."

During the night guests enjoyed a drinks reception, tucked into a three-course meal, and lined up to take fun photobooth pictures to take home with them.

There was also a raffle of over 40 prizes as well as music from Utopia Disco inviting people to dance the night away.

Andy delivered a heartwarming and emotional speech on Friday, recounting the charity's success stories.

Headway CEO Jamie Miller, who was among the revellers, said: "We at Headway Oxfordshire are very proud of Andy and his achievements. His positivity and determination are to be admired and we are grateful that he has made such efforts to 'put something back' into the charities that have supported him over the years."

Didcot's mayor, Jackie Billington, and her predecessor Steve Connel, who collectively helped add more than £3,000 into this year's fundraising goal, also put their glad rags on and partied the night away.

The charity's next event is its festive end-of-year Christmas party on November 24 at the Conservative Club in Didcot, which will help raise funds for the Sleigh2Give appeal.

To donate, go to play2give.org.uk.

Play2Give founder Andy Baker thanked all who supported the event

In the photobooth and on the dancefloor, guests had a great time

InBrief

Rival uni tops list

OXFORD University lost out to rival Cambridge for the fifth year in a row in the latest higher education rankings.

Cambridge was rated the best university in the UK in the 20th edition of The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide, published last week.

Oxford University came second, but was ranked top for the proportion of students achieving a 2:1 or first class honours degrees.

A spokesperson from the university said: "These rankings follow on from the recent Times Higher Education world rankings, which rated Oxford as the number one university in the world. All these league tables reflect the fact that Oxford is in the very forefront of the world's universities for the quality of its teaching, the excellence of its research, and the economic and social benefits of its enterprise and innovation."

Oxford Brookes was ranked 84th.

Quiz councillors

RESIDENTS who have any concerns or questions about Thame can go along to a councillor drop-in.

It takes place on Saturday at the Information Centre at Thame Town Hall, and Linda Emery and Mary Stiles, will be on hand between 10am and midday to hear about any ideas, concerns or questions you may have.

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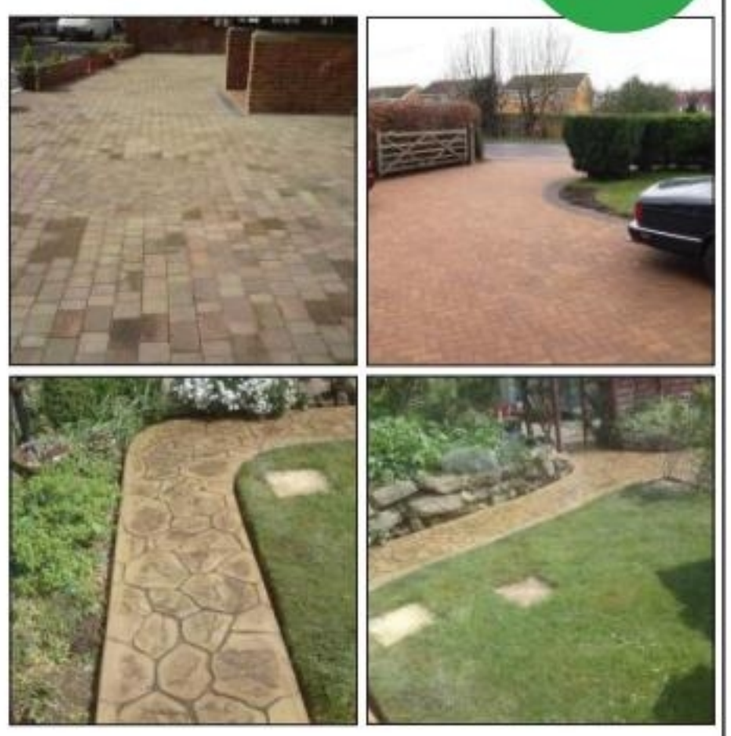

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News

Dazzling displays win the day

GREEN-FINGERED residents rolled up their sleeves and got their hands dirty to show off their gardening skills as part of a competition.

Brilliant blooms and dazzling displays were celebrated in Witney after Windrush Valley Estate locals were tasked by social landlord Sanctuary Housing to find the area's best gardens.

The contest attracted a diverse and colourful crop of entries, with gardens boasting everything from amazing azaleas to glorious geraniums.

Entrants were invited to a special celebratory event at the Oasis Café where residents Douglas Miller, Judith Clack and Ian and Flora McKenzie were announced as the overall winners.

They each received a National Garden gift voucher while Janeen Woodward, of Oxford Garden Design, presented certificates to other residents who took part.

West Oxfordshire district councillor Andrew Coles and deputy mayor of Witney, Cllr Brenda Churchill, a member of the Witney in Bloom committee and herself a resident of Windrush Valley Estate, attended the prize-giving ceremony.

Kate Winstanley, Sanctuary's neighbourhood partnerships manager, said: "We are always looking at ways to make our neighbourhoods greener and cleaner places to live and this has been a fantastic opportunity to involve our residents in that goal.

"We were thrilled with the quality and diversity of the wonderful gardens and picking the overall winners proved a very tough task for our judges."

One of the overall winners was Judith Clack's garden

The competition was funded by Sanctuary's community investment fund, which supports its residents and communities.

Edible Gardens Witney helped organise the presentation ceremony.

People power fights rural crime

By Eva Astreinidou

POLICE and residents of rural areas in Oxfordshire are joining forces to fight crime and protect land and livestock.

A special taskforce, made of 20 civilian spotters, police officers, and the national police air service, were on a 'stakeout' covering 400 square miles on September 18 and 19.

Operation Massey, launched by Thames Valley Police, calls on civilians from rural communities in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse to help protect the areas from criminals who target agricultural machinery and livestock and damage land.

For their first outing, the teams, who were out from 8pm to 4am, reported any sightings and helped to coordinate containment to try and catch offenders.

Their mission was successful, and included the seizing of a high-powered air rifle from a man shooting rabbits from the roadside.

Inspector Mags Turner said: "The joint working with the police and members of the community as part of Operation Massey proved to be a success. Throughout the operation the high visibility and patrols deterred any criminals.

"Rural crime is our priority and utilising the local knowledge really aided the success of the operation. Preventing and detecting crime can be harder in rural areas.

"This is due to there often being fewer witnesses to rural crimes and greater opportunities for criminals to target isolated properties and businesses, but with Operation Massey, we aim to take steps together to stop and prevent crimes that affect our rural communities."

InBrief

All aboard for award

THE hard work of a depot manager has been recognised after she was shortlisted for a highly-respected industry award.

Louise Rouse, 30, who lives in Didcot and is based at Thames Travel's Wallingford depot, has been nominated for the manager of the year for small or medium-sized bus operators award.

Louise has worked in the bus industry since 2008 and manages the company's fleet of 48 vehicles as well as more than 100 staff.

The winner was announced at a ceremony in Birmingham last night as we went to press.

Charities fair invite

CHARITIES are invited to exhibit at this year's One World Fair.

Non-profit groups can join the Oxfam fundraising group to raise money for their charities at Wesley Memorial Church on November 18.

Charities and not-for-profit groups will be charged £25 a table at the venue on New Inn Hall Street.

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Advertisement Feature

A good time to be a girl

Said our CEO, Cheryl Giovannoni, speaking to the Girls Day School Trust

Whilst there is continual media coverage of anxious, unhappy teenagers, there are also a vast majority of girls who are far stronger, resilient, opinionated, and feisty than they are given credit for. That can be incredibly empowering for a girls' school, and Oxford High is relishing the challenge of how to prepare our students for the wider world, for their roles as future leaders and as happy individuals.

To do this requires continual innovation and understanding of the ways girls learn. Our 360 Programme for Sixth Form offers a very different approach to academic achievement, developing leadership, and nurturing self-belief. This academic year, we launch our very own MOOC in partnership with FutureLearn and the GDST. This enhances the Perspectives strand of the 360 focusing on 'me, my community and my world' and includes life skills such as employability, personal finance and networking delivered via a tech platform that reflects the digital age our students inhabit.

We believe every girl who is bright and keen should have the opportunity to fulfil her potential regardless of financial circumstances. Almost one in five of pupils at GDST schools receives a bursary or scholarship to help towards fees and our long-standing relationship with the HSBC Scholarship Programme provides life-changing bursary funding for girls entering OHS from the state sector.

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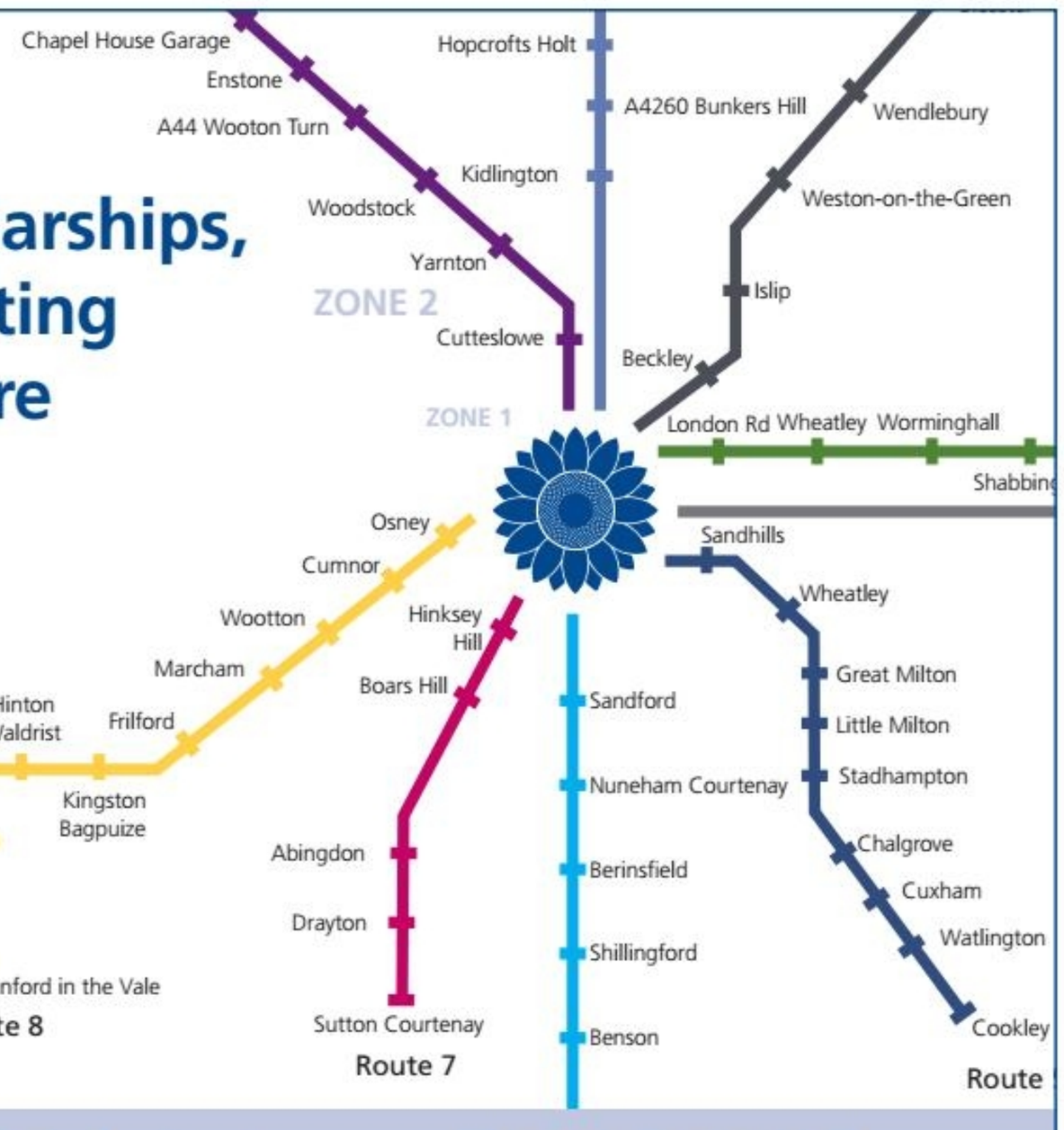

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Out & About

Simply awful!

David Walliams's tale of frights, fights and friendship comes to life

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Out & About

So awful, you'll love it

By Samantha McGregor

A STAGE version of David Walliams' best-selling children's book Awful Auntie comes to the Oxford stage this month.

The Birmingham Stage Company's tour stops off at the New Theatre, in George Street, from Wednesday, October 11 to 14.

It follows the company's record-breaking tour of his Gangsta Granny which played at Oxford's New Theatre in January 2016.

Awful Auntie tells the story of Stella, who when she set off to visit London with her parents had no idea her life was in danger.

Waking up from a coma three-months later, only her Aunt Alberta can tell Stella what has happened.

But not everything Aunt Alberta tells her turns out to be true and Stella quickly discovers she's in for the fight of her life against her very own awful auntie.

Walliams' amazing tale of frights, fights and friendship features a very old car, a very large owl and a very small ghost.

Walliams said: "The Birmingham Stage Company's Gangsta Granny is truly brilliant, so I'm hugely excited that they're now bringing Awful Auntie to the stage. It promises to be a thrilling show and a total hoot."

The book was published in September 2014 and was number one in the children's book chart for seven weeks.

The paperback was published in February 2016 and sold 212,000 copies, making it the best-selling children's paperback of the year.

Combined sales of the hard-back and paperback have reached 950,000 copies.

It has helped to make Walliams one of the country's best-selling children's authors, with four of his books charting in the 2016 children's top ten. His books have been translated into over 50 languages, bringing worldwide sales to 16.7 million.

Walliams began his writing career in 2008 with his debut novel The Boy in the Dress.

Since then he has written nine more books as well as five picture books. Three of his books have won National Children's Book Awards.

For tickets pop into the New Theatre box office on George Street, call 0844 871 3020 or go to atgtickets.com/oxford

Maddy continues to span the folk music market with new partners

BRITISH music legend Maddy Prior, the queen of folk and the voice of Steeleye Span, is set to play two Oxfordshire dates.

Together with new musical partners Giles Lewin, of Carnival Band and Bellowhead, and young accordion player Hannah James, Maddy returns to perform the music of England, the British Isles and Eastern Europe – all delivered in her own unique style.

The trio will perform in concerts at Nettlebed Folk Club, in High Street, on Monday, October 16, and the following evening at the Chipping Norton Theatre.

Maddy, who has built her career on exploring various musical avenues, said: "I am blessed, working in music, with excellent musicians.

"Over the years it has been a delight, and no musical endeavour has been more delightful than working with Hannah James and Giles Lewin. We have worked together for about five years, making one album, 3 for Joy, but are now embarked on our second.

"It is to be called Shortwinger, and has a theme of the wild field. Mainly birds and hares.

"Murmuration looks at the declining population of star-lings and their stunning evening display. Swallow is a modern song concerning the migration and absence of our loved summer visitor.

"These two musicians are creative and enthusiastic and keep the project alive and powerful for me, unjaded, even by so many years of doing this extraordinary job."

For tickets for Nettlebed Folk Club call 01628 636620 and for Chipping Norton Theatre call 01608 642350.

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Bicester Village Catering Talent Day

9 October, 10 am – 12 pm, John Paul II Centre, Bicester

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For more information, visit the dedicated Food section at Careers.BicesterVillage.com

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Out & About

Check out 400-year-old gem in Burcot

By Karen Neville

Chicken, mushroom, crispy bacon and fondant potato; right, soft shell crab tempura and below, duck egg, bacon and bubble and squeak

'FINE wines and ales, outstanding food and a warm and friendly atmosphere await you at The Chequers at Burcot.'

That's the proud boast on the 17th century inn's website and after spending a very pleasant evening there I wholeheartedly agree with that statement.

Award-winning chef Steve Sanderson has run the charming village hostelry since 2006 offering traditional dishes with a modern twist.

And now the inn has undergone a refurbishment offering guests a fresh new look still boasting fabulous food.

Having not eaten there for many years I can't testify as to how the menu compares with previous ones but what I can tell you is we were very impressed with the current one.

Offering just the right amount of choice but without overwhelming diners, we chose the crispy duck salad with coriander, spring onion, cucumber, pink ginger and duck sauce and the bubble and squeak, crispy bacon and poached egg to start - not only did both look very attractive they delivered flavours to match. The duck salad was subtle with the spring onion and ginger providing delicate kicks of zing while the poached egg added an unctuous rich edge to the crispy bacon and light bubble and squeak.

With taste buds now primed we moved onto the main courses – roast chicken breast, bacon and wild mushrooms with dauphinoise served in a rich yet slightly sweet sauce. The chicken was tender and juicy and the dauphinoise felt ever so slightly naughty to be eating such was its smooth creaminess.

For the other main we opted for the soft shell crab tempura, sweet chilli dip, fries and salad and judging by the glances the spectacular-looking dish was attracting from other diners it was the right choice. Perfectly light, crispy and tasty is all we needed to say to sum that dish up.

We were enjoying a crisp Muscadet with the starters and mains – Steve prides himself on his wine choices and if this was anything to go by he must know his stuff.

Every time we dine out I always go with the intention of saying no to desserts but every time I am faced with a creme brulee I know what the outcome will be.

Served with strawberries and shortbread, it was smooth, creamy and stood up to the spoon test very well.

Mini cinnamon doughnuts, apple sauce and custard were the front runner for my husband who despite also avowing dessert could not stop licking his lips at these soft, yet crisp morsels.

In fact we enjoyed the desserts so much we forgot to take pictures so you'll just have to go along for yourself to find out how tasty and well presented the food was and enjoy the excellent service provided by the staff.

The Chequers, Abingdon Road, Burcot
thechequers-burcot.co.uk
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Picture: *Kate Holmes*

Male dominance explored through dance in the office

By Samantha McGregor

THE Farm's international show Cockfight comes to Pegasus Theatre as part of Oxford Playhouse's Playhouse Plays Out scheme.

Taking to the stage on Friday, October 20, the production is set in the work place and explores male dominance through dance theatre.

This production illustrates the interaction between two men from different generations, trapped in an all too familiar and universal environment - the office.

It is a physical depiction of male behaviour and intergenerational conflicts, a struggle between youth and experience, a power play between peers, and a questioning of authority.

Straight from its critically acclaimed performances in Australia, The Farm presents the first UK tour of Cockfight.

Performed by Gavin Webber, 50, and Joshua Thomson, 33, it is developed by The Farm in partnership with guest artist Julian Louis.

These two men exist side by side, share space, resources, time and responsibility and justify their existence in relation to each other.

Their physical action is underpinned by a fierce co-dependency in a duet of slow-motion fight sequences, interlocking rolls and tackles and Buster Keaton-esque battles of supremacy.

Cockfight is a powerful physical performance about male dominance and the exhibition of masculinity.

Tickets for Cockfight, presented by Oxford Playhouse at Pegasus Theatre, are £19 and available from the ticket office on 01865 305305 or view oxfordplayhouse.com

On stage

Howie's new album really stands out

THIS month sees Liverpool born singer songwriter Howie Payne launch a new album and embark on a UK tour.

The former frontman of The Stands has already released track Some Believer, Sweet Dreamer from Mountain due out on October 27.

Mountain was recorded at London's State of The Ark Studios during the last week of July before being mixed and mastered in Los Angeles.

Howie said: "I think 'Mountain' is my best record so far. It's got a mellow vibe but the songs are rooted in real life which gives it some weight and a bit of edge.

"We recorded it in just four days, and pretty much live, during one of the hottest weeks of the year, and you can hear it in the sound, like the voltage is heavier, and the air is thicker in the silence between the instruments."

And Howie is pretty much straight out on the road to promote the album with a gig at Oxford's Bullingdon on October 23. He said: "It's my first tour with a band in a while so I'm really excited about it.

"I've played Oxford a few times and had some good nights there too.

"I remember playing what was then the Zodiac with Jet in 2003, it might have been the first night of that tour and all the Oasis crew came up from London.

"That turned into a bit of an epic night, I don't really remember anything after about half past seven though."

The performance will include tunes from The Stands era as well as his solo stuff.

Howie said: "I'll be playing some songs from The Stands albums, some from Bright Light Ballads, some from the new record Mountain and maybe some that I've written for other people so it's gonna be cool, and there's gonna be music."

For more information or tickets go to howiepayne.com

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Out&About Competition

WIN tickets to the Oxford Aqua Park

A short trip down Burcot Lane, Berinsfield will lead you to a beautiful blue lake; nestled on top is Oxfordshire's latest, greatest... and wettest attraction, Oxford Aqua Park.

The Park contains everything you can imagine, from giant slippery slides and bouncy trampolines to inflatable obstacles and climbing walls.

Amongst the obstacles you will find children and adults alike getting wrapped up in the Park's fun challenges and clumsy mayhem.

Britain's weather is, as everyone knows, hit and miss, however, full body wetsuits can be hired, keeping you comfortably warm in all weather scenarios.

If you fancy keeping dry while your little ones let off some steam, then you can enjoy a nice cup of tea or coffee and other nibbles from the on-site café, which over looks the lake.

The facilities are remarkably dry, very clean and easy to access.

Parents and guardians can rest assured that their loved ones will be in a safe environment as the Aqua Park hosts at least four, fully trained and professional life guard at any one time. The safety briefings are concise and easy to understand, allowing everyone to have the maximum amount of fun throughout the session.

Oxford Aqua Park is open Wednesday for Sunday and open for two weeks over the October half term holiday; with free parking on site and affordable admission costs this wet and wild activity makes a perfect day out for anyone aged six and over. Booking in advance is strongly advised due to the Park's popularity, to do so please call 07376 976734 or visit oxfordaquapark.com

Closing date: Wednesday, October 18

Win Tickets!

We have 20 tickets to this great attraction and to be in with a chance of winning one all you have to do is answer this simple question:

Q: Where is Oxford Aqua Park- Bournemouth, Berinsfield or Banbury?

To enter this competition and more like it, go online to
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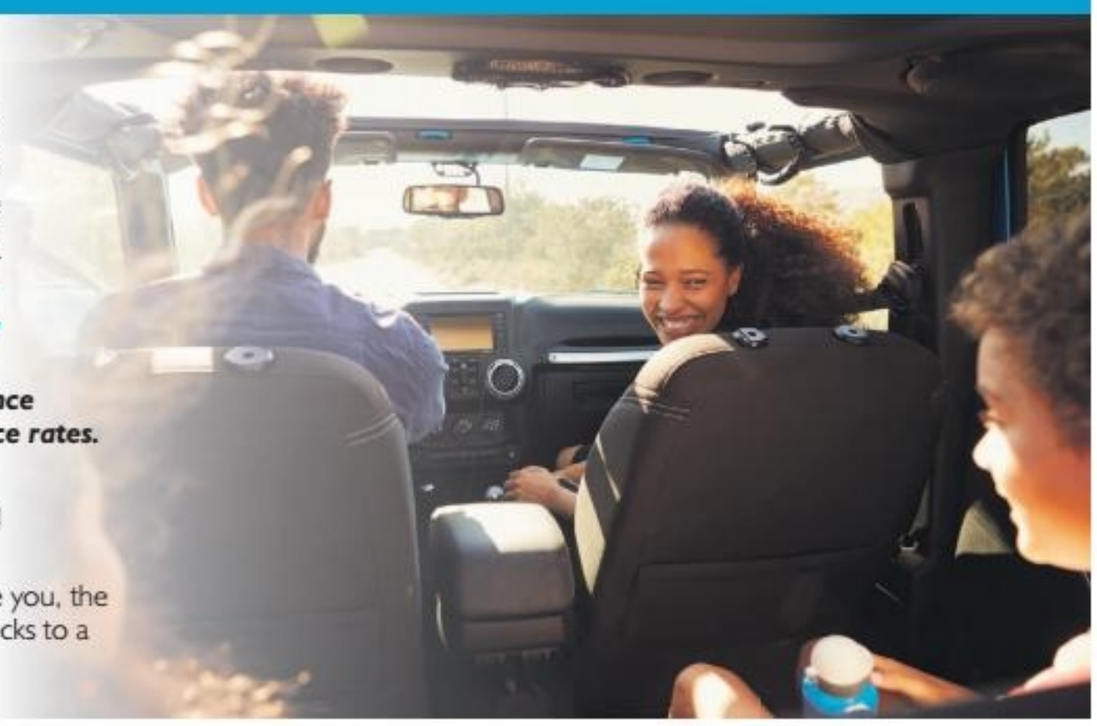

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"I honestly believe that Colourfence is the best general purpose fencing product on the market today!"

Get ready for Autumn

Now's the perfect time to replace your garden fence once and for all. Anna Ryder Richardson - Designer and Television Presenter - takes a closer look at Colourfence, the revolutionary low-maintenance system.

It's been ten years since I regularly graced TV screens helping transform people's living spaces with MDF and stripped floorboards. Recently it's been more "celebrity muck out" than "celebrity make-over" as I took up the challenge of owning my own Wildlife Zoo in Tenby. In this time I've learnt quiet a lot about fences and having researched the various options for my own benefit I thought I would share my knowledge with a wider audience.

The latest design processes mean there is now a tremendous array of fencing products for you to choose from, constructed from a variety of materials. Each has its own attributes, and ultimately it can often come down to a matter of personal preference. For me, there was one unique system that stood out as providing the best balance between price and functionality which eradicates fencing problems for good. Or for at least 25 years. Colourfence. For quality, value, longevity, aesthetic design, this fencing system ticks all the boxes. Fencing made for the 21st century that will transform the look of your garden which is supplied and fitted by a company whose customer service is as good as the product.

In my view, Colourfence is the 'Rolls Royce' of fencing – just without the exclusive price tag. What's more, it's guaranteed to stay in place in up to 130mph winds and is virtually maintenance free.

To find out how the experts from Colourfence might help you, I suggest you call **01865 582 171** and speak to their team.

Colourfence: The ultimate garden fence?

For many Colourfence is perhaps the ultimate choice. For the last 15 years it's been widely used across the UK and has steadily gained a reputation for its quality. By using the highest specification Colorbond steel in the fence structure itself, complemented by the highest level of customer service from accredited Franchisees, Colourfence is now regarded by many as the premier fencing solution in the market. Immune to the rot and resistant to the weather that so quickly effects wooden fences, Colourfence has none of the drawbacks of wood - plenty of additional benefits and what's more it's better value!

Call **01865 582 171** for more information

Gardeners' Questions

Q Wooden fence panels just don't seem to last - is there a storm resistant alternative?

A The Colourfence system has been tested under cyclonic conditions to withstand storms with wind gusts up to 130mph. Unlike your wooden fence - once professionally installed - Colourfence really will stay up!

Q No matter what I treat my wooden fence with - nothing seems to prevent it rotting or looking shabby for very long.

A Treating your fence is a thankless and expensive task. It's also a losing battle. Wood simply want's to rot. Colourfence offers a low-maintenance alternative where by an occasional wash down will keep it looking great for up to 25 years! GUARANTEED!†

THIS WEEK'S JOB

†Terms and conditions apply - full details available on request

Head into Autumn - with COLOURFENCE

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Every gardener knows that it pays to plan ahead. If you are one of the thousands of people who watched helpless, as winter winds battered their garden, it will not be a surprise that garden fences are almost always the first casualty. Whether you have previously patched, painted or simply prayed to keep your fence going, there's no escaping the fact that timber fences will always fall victim to the weather. With Colourfence you can put your garden straight once and for all. Colourfence is scientfically tested and cyclonically rated to ensure when professionally installed, it can withstand wind gusts of up to 130mph. Once it's up – it stays up and is guaranteed to look good year after year. Safe, extra secure and hassle free – you will NEVER need to paint it, treat it or patch it. An occasional hose down will be all you need do to keep it in top condition for years to come. In fact the system is so durable that Colourfence will guarantee† their fencing to last at least 25 years. Available in a range of colours to suit any garden, with or without decorative trellis, the highly skilled installation team make short work of their dramatic transformations. Your sad old fence will be e_ ciently cleared and replaced, leaving you to get back to enjoying your rejuvenated garden. Pricing is just as straightforward and equally attractive. Starting costs are in line with inferior timber systems but with no annual treatments required, Colourfence saves you time and money each and every year. Their aim is your peace of mind. With a 25 year guarantee† Colourfence speaks for itself and promises a lifetime of hassle-free enjoyment.

For more information and to arrange a FREE no obligation site visit simply call one of their helpful team on 01865 582 171.

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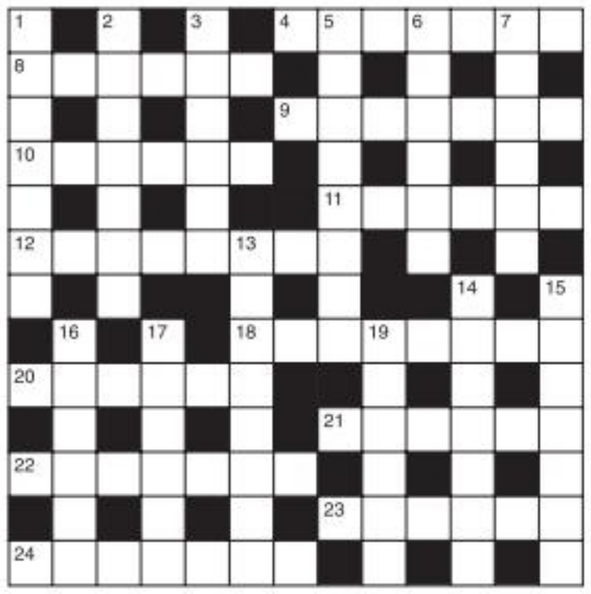
WORDWHEEL

You have 10 mins to find as many words as possible using the letters in the wheel. Each must use the hub letter and at least 3 others. Letters may be used only once. You cannot use plurals, foreign words or proper nouns. There is at least one 9-letter word to be found.

How you rate:
15 words, average; 20 words, good; 25 words, very good; 30 or more, excellent.

DOUBLE CROSSWORD



Cryptic Clues:

Across

4. A support thus returning to the purpose (7)
8. Sent a telegram, but went first by taxi (6)
9. Prove wrong cue to break font (7)
10. No peer can be a means of getting to the contents (6)
11. He is likely to resort to flight (6)
12. The dream of more than 500 is disunity (8)
18. They are not yet at the croaking stage (8)
20. Pollute a narrow pass (6)
21. Leave stranded and in the red? (6)
22. Claimed to be proceeding by tens (7)
23. Agree to yield to account (6)
24. Giddy-minded youth leader on journey by air (7)

Down

1. Agrees to have binders on account (7)
2. See how verbose this could be (7)
3. A niche for a holiday? (6)
5. Desecrated by drop-out going round temple (8)
6. Crossing-place for bull at university (6)
7. Stayed in bed longer at some expense (6)
13. Train, etc., to work with one another (8)
14. This flower is a stupid mistake (7)
15. Right apart, like below (7)
16. Sound the bells again - there's a cancellation (6)
17. Concealment of a beating (6)
19. I am in a position to produce fish (6)

Quick Clues:

Across

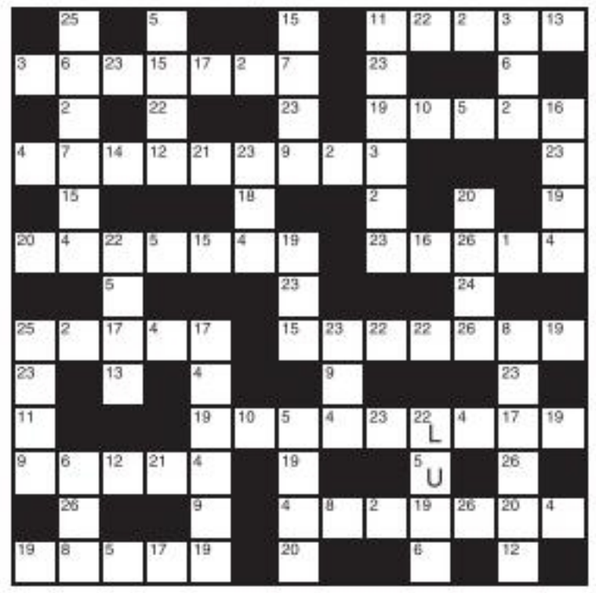
4. Novice (7)
8. Publicly (6)
9. Eerie (7)
10. Objects (6)
11. Easement (6)
12. Break (8)
18. Unmindful (8)
20. Resist (6)
21. Interior (6)
22. Think true (7)
23. Stop (6)
24. Brittle (7)

Down

1. Pope (7)
2. Narration (7)
3. Predicament (6)
5. Solid (8)
6. Subject (6)
7. Delicate (6)
13. Vast change (8)
14. Shortfall (7)
15. Views (7)
16. Seem (6)
17. Advent (6)
19. Repudiates (6)

CODEWORD

Codeword is the crossword puzzle with no clues. The number in each square corresponds to a letter. Work out the words in the grid using the letters provided. Fill in these known letters first, then use skill and judgement to work out the others.



A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
				V								
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
								Z				

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

DOUBLE CROSSWORD:
Cryptic: Across: 1 Draughtsmen; 9 Nag; 10 Tragedian; 11 Expel; 13 Service; 14 Tremor; 16 Crease; 18 Knitter; 19 Spent; 20 Notepaper; 21 Fan; 22 Cross-legged.
Down: 2 Rag; 3 Until; 4 Hoarse; 5 Shearer; 6 Eliminate; 7 Undertaking; 8 Interesting; 12 Predictor; 15 Octopus; 17 Propel; 19 Sprig; 21 Fee.

Quick: Across: 1 Reciprocity; 9 Pit; 10 Aggravate; 11 Robot; 13 Outwear; 14 Prance; 16 Scaled; 18 Impinge; 19 Burst; 20 Tremulous; 21 Too; 22 Desecrating.
Down: 2 Eat; 3 Inapt; 4 Region; 5 Chaotic; 6 Traveller; 7 Appropriate; 8 Degradation; 12 Blaspheme; 15 Confuse; 17 Detour; 19 Beset; 21 Tan.

SUDOKU:

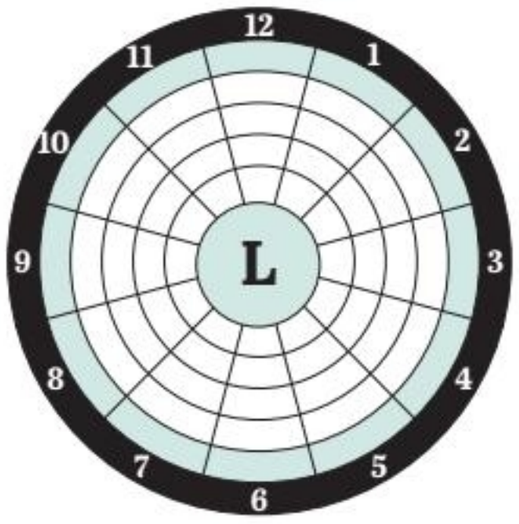
7	4	6	9	8	2	3	5	1
5	3	9	7	6	1	4	2	8
2	1	8	5	3	4	6	9	7
4	5	1	8	7	3	9	6	2
9	6	2	4	1	5	7	8	3
3	8	7	2	9	6	5	1	4
6	9	3	1	4	8	2	7	5
8	2	4	6	5	7	1	3	9
1	7	5	3	2	9	8	4	6

CODEWORD:
1=W, 2=R, 3=E, 4=S, 5=Y, 6=X, 7=U, 8=C, 9=F, 10=Z, 11=H, 12=V, 13=N, 14=J, 15=D, 16=I, 17=G, 18=K, 19=P, 20=M, 21=A, 22=O, 23=B, 24=Q, 25=T, 26=L.

WORD WHEEL:
STOPWATCH.

CLOCKWORD

The solutions from 1 to 12 are all six-letter words ending with the letter L in the centre. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of a TV presenter.



1. Hand tool
2. Creature
3. Rogue
4. Trying experience
5. Door beam
6. Summer shoe
7. Small piece
8. Middle Eastern country
9. Deadly
10. Bay tree
11. Implant
12. Gloss paint

NINER

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

THE CLUES:

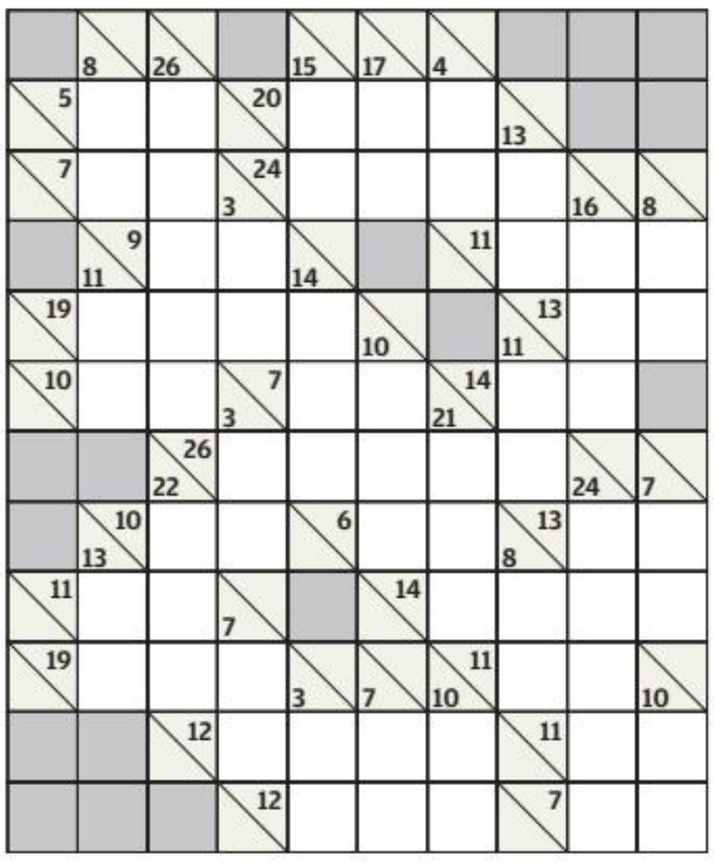
94362874 gives a flower;
641574 gives a flower;
9435486 gives a wreath of flowers.

KAKURO

Fill in the white squares with the numbers 1 to 9.

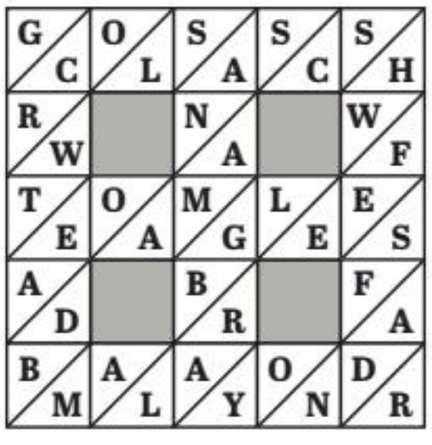
Each horizontal block of squares must add up to the number in the shaded square to its left, and each vertical block must add up to the number in the shaded square above it.

No number may be used more than once in any one block.



SPLIT DECISION

Cross out one of the two letters in each divided square to reveal a completed crossword grid.



SUDOKU

				5		7		8
		8			4			
	5			9		1		3
			1				9	
7		5				3		2
	8				3			
6		9		1			5	
			6			9		
8		3		7				

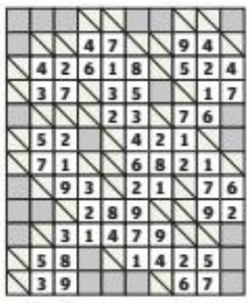
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

CLOCKWORD:
1 Guitar, 2 Rapier, 3 Arthur, 4 Hammer, 5 Affair, 6 Mother, 7 Timber, 8 Horror, 9 Oyster, 10 Repair, 11 Poplar, 12 Easier.

CELEBRITY: Graham Thorpe.

NINER:
SUBLIMATE.

KAKURO:



SUDOKU:

5	1	8	2	6	3	9	4	7
4	2	7	8	1	9	6	5	3
9	6	3	4	7	5	2	1	8
7	3	1	5	9	4	8	2	6
2	4	9	6	3	8	1	7	5
8	5	6	1	2	7	4	3	9
3	8	5	9	4	2	7	6	1
1	9	4	7	5	6	3	8	2
6	7	2	3	8	1	5	9	4

SPLIT DECISION:

S	T	A	N	D
T		C		R
E	X	T	R	A
A		E		M
M	E	D	I	A

Saturday October 7th

BBC1

Casualty, 8.40pm

DAYTIME **11.30 The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food** (S)(R) **12.00 Football Focus** (S) **12.30 Bargain Hunt** (S)(R) **1.00 BBC News;** Weather (S) **1.15 Gymnastics: World Championships** (S) **2.45 FILM Muppets Most Wanted (2014) (U)** (S) **4.25 Chris Coleman: Dare to Dream** (S) **5.25 BBC News** (S) **5.35 BBC Regional News; Weather** (S) **5.45 Pointless Celebrities** (S) **6.35 Strictly Come Dancing** (S)

7

8
8.40 Casualty Dylan is forced to bring Sanosi into the Emergency Department. (S)

9
9.30 Mrs Brown's Boys The family awaits the fruits of its fraud. (S) (R)

10
10.00 BBC News; Weather; (S) National Lottery Update (S)
10.20 FILM Thor: The Dark World (2013) (12) Superhero adventure sequel, with Chris Hemsworth. (S)

11

AFTER 12
12.05 The NFL Show (S) **12.35** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **12.40** BBC News (S)

BBC2

Later – with Jools Holland, 11pm

9.00 Saturday Mash-Up! (S) **11.00 Natural World** (S)(R) **12.00 Rick Stein's Long Weekends** (S)(R) **1.00 Railways of the Great War with Michael Portillo** (S)(R) **1.30 Flog It!** (S)(R) **2.30 Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands** (S)(R) **3.30 India: Nature's Wonderland** (S)(R) **4.30 Mastermind** (S)(R) **5.00 The Big Family Cooking Showdown** (S)(R) **6.00 Anglesey: Island Life** (S) **6.30 Gardeners' World** (S)(R)

7.30 Front Row Harrison Ford and Ryan Gosling discuss Blade Runner 2049. (S)

8.00 Britain Afloat (S)
8.30 Dad's Army The platoon responds to a cricket challenge. (S)(R)

9.00 Basquiat – Rage to Riches Documentary exploring the enduring popularity of the self-taught American artist's work. (S)

10.30 Performance Live: Missing Episode Experimental poet Ross Sutherland remixes an episode of EastEnders from October, 1997. (S)

11.00 Later – with Jools Holland Featuring the National, Morrissey, Queens of the Stone Age and Khalid. (S)

12.05 FILM Bright Days Ahead (2013) (15) Romantic drama, starring Fanny Ardant and Laurent Lafitte. **1.35 FILM A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square (1979) (PG)** Crime drama, starring David Niven. (S) **3.20** This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

The Family Chase, 7.10pm

8.30 Scrambled!: Thunderbirds Are Go (S) **9.05 Scrambled!: Adventure Time** (S) **9.25 Saturday Morning with James Martin** (S) **11.20 Midsomer Murders** (S)(R) **1.10 ITV News;** Weather (S) **1.15 Catchphrase** (S)(R) **2.00 The Chase** (S)(R) **2.55 The X Factor: Bootcamp** (S)(R) **4.25 Thunderbirds Are Go** (S)(R) **4.50 Little Big Shots** (S)(R) **5.50 ITV Regional News;** Weather (S) **6.00 ITV News** (S) **6.15 Cannonball** (S)

7.10 The Family Chase The Price family from Oldham takes on one of the Chasers. Last in the series. (S)

8.15 The X Factor: Bootcamp Talent contest, hosted by Dermot O'Leary. (S)

9.45 The Jonathan Ross Show With guests Kit Harington, Liv Tyler, Sue Perkins, Mary J Blige and Rob Beckett. (S)

10.45 ITV News; Weather (S)

11.05 FILM American Pie: The Wedding (2003) (15) Comedy sequel, with Jason Biggs and Alyson Hannigan. (S)

12.50 Jackpot247 3.00 The Hungry Sailors (S)(R) **3.50 ITV** Nightscreen

Channel 4

WWII's Great Escapes: The Freedom Trails, 8pm

6.45 Triathlon: Stoke on Trent City of Sport (S) **7.10 Everybody Loves Raymond** (S)(R) **8.30 Frasier** (S)(R) **9.30 The Big Bang Theory** (S) **10.55 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **11.55 The Crystal Maze** (S)(R) **1.00 Formula 1 Japanese Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights** (S) **2.30 World's Most Expensive Cars** (S) **3.35 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun** (S)(R) **5.35 Location, Location, Location** (S)(R) **6.30 Channel 4 News** (S)

7.00 Britain's Ancient Tracks with Tony Robinson The Time Team veteran ventures along the Derbyshire Portway in the Peak District. (S)

8.00 WWII's Great Escapes: The Freedom Trails The trials faces by people seeking to escape Nazi occupation by crossing the French Pyrenees mountains. (S)

9.00 FILM Escape Plan (2013) (15) A security expert is incarcerated after being duped and tries to break out with the help of a fellow convict. Thriller, with Sylvester Stallone. (S)

11.15 FILM The Gunman (2015) (15) Crime drama, starring Sean Penn and Idris Elba. (S)

1.20 The Last Leg (S)(R) **2.20** Hollyoaks (S) **4.30** Building the Dream (S)(R) **5.25** Four in a Bed (S)(R) **5.55** Kevin Can Wait (S)

Channel 5

Live Boxing: York Hall Brawl, 9.45pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.55 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (S)(R) **10.30 The Gadget Show** (S)(R) **11.20 Criminals: Caught on Camera** (S)(R) **11.50 Police Interceptors** (S)(R) **1.50 Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords** (S)(R) **2.50 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door** (S)(R) **4.50 5 News Weekend** (S) **4.55 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away** (S)(R) **6.50 FILM Where Eagles Dare (1968) (PG)** (S)

7.30 Britain's Ancient Tracks with Tony Robinson The Time Team veteran ventures along the Derbyshire Portway in the Peak District. (S)

8.00 WWII's Great Escapes: The Freedom Trails The trials faces by people seeking to escape Nazi occupation by crossing the French Pyrenees mountains. (S)

9.00 FILM Escape Plan (2013) (15) A security expert is incarcerated after being duped and tries to break out with the help of a fellow convict. Thriller, with Sylvester Stallone. (S)

9.45 Live Boxing: York Hall Brawl Andrew Selby v Maximino Flores. Coverage of the WBC world flyweight eliminator, which takes place at York Hall in Bethnal Green. (S)

11.30 Football on 5: Goal Rush Goals from the weekend's games in Leagues One and Two. (S)

12.15 SuperCasino (S) **3.10 FILM Love at the Parade (2012) (PG)** Romantic drama, with Autumn Reeser and Antonio Cupo. (S) **4.40** Divine Designs (S)(R) **5.05** Wildlife SOS (S)(R) **5.30** Chinese Food in Minutes (S)(R) **5.45** Chinese Food in Minutes (S)(R)

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DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6
6.00 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **6.25** Emmerdale **8.35** Coronation Street **11.25** The X Factor: Bootcamp **1.00** FILM: The Lake House (2006) (PG) **2.00** FYI Daily **2.05** FILM: The Lake House (2006) (PG) Concluded. **3.05** FILM: The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas (2000) (PG) Family comedy prequel, starring Mark Addy. **4.05** FYI Daily **4.10** FILM: The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas (2000) (PG) Family comedy prequel, starring Mark Addy. **4.55** FILM: Happy Feet (2006) (U) Animated adventure, with the voice of Elijah Wood. **5.55** FYI Daily **6.00** FILM: Happy Feet (2006) (U) Concluded. **7.00** FILM: The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (2013) (12) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Martin Freeman. **8.05** FYI Daily **8.10** FILM: The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (2013) (12) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Martin Freeman. **10.15** Celebrity Juice **11.05** Family Guy **12.30** American Dad! **1.25** Bromans **2.25** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.50** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10
6.00 Murder, She Wrote **7.50** FILM: The Belles of St Trinian's (1954) (U) **8.50** FYI Daily **8.55** FILM: The Belles of St Trinian's (1954) (U) **9.45** FILM: Columbo: Dagger of the Mind (1972) (PG) **11.50** Bertie and Elizabeth **1.55** Rosemary & Thyme **2.55** Foyle's War **7.00** Midsomer Murders **11.00** Lewis **1.05** On the Buses **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9
7.00 The Incredible Human Journey **8.00** Wild China **9.00** Black Lake **10.25** James May: The Christmas Reassembler **10.55** James May: The Reassembler **11.25** British Sitcom: 60 Years of Laughing at Ourselves **12.25** Top of the Pops: 1984 **1.30** EMI: The Inside Story **2.30** Wild China **3.30** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28
6.00 Stage School **8.30** Come Dine with Me: Made in Chelsea Special **9.30** The Goldbergs **12.00** The Big Bang Theory **3.00** Don't Tell the Bride **4.00** The Great British Bake Off **5.15** The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** FILM: The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 1 (2011) (12) Romantic fantasy sequel, with Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson. **11.20** Naked Attraction **12.30** Gogglebox **1.35** Tattoo Fixers **2.35** Rude Tube **3.30** Don't Tell the Bride **4.25** How I Met Your Mother **5.10** Rude(ish) Tube

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14
8.55 River Cottage Bites **9.30** Coast vs Country **10.30** A Place in the Sun: Home or Away **2.40** Four in a Bed **5.20** Come Dine with Me **8.00** Volatile Earth: Killer Volcanoes **9.00** First Contact: Lost Tribe of the Amazon **10.00** Iceman Murder Mystery **11.10** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **1.15** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **2.10** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **3.15** 8 Out of 10 Cats **3.55** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15
11.00 Spy Kids 4: All the Time in the World (2011) (PG) **1.00** The Boxtrolls (2014) (PG) **2.50** Parental Guidance (2012) (U) Comedy, with Billy Crystal and Bette Midler. **4.55** Crocodile Dundee (1986) (15) Comedy, starring Paul Hogan. **6.50** Crocodile Dundee II (1988) (PG) Comedy adventure sequel, starring Paul Hogan. **9.00** Unbroken (2014) (15) Fact-based Second World War drama, starring Jack O'Connell. **11.40** Underworld: Awakening (2012) (18) Action fantasy, starring Kate Beckinsale. **1.20** White God (2014) (15) **3.45** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12
6.00 Home Shopping **7.10** American Pickers **8.00** Top Gear **10.00** Projects **11.00** Sin City Motors **1.00** Cops UK: Bodycam Squad **2.00** Motorway Cops **3.00** Would I Lie to You? **5.00** Red Dwarf **7.00** Not Going Out **9.00** FILM: Centurion (2010) (15) Ancient Roman action thriller, starring Michael Fassbender. **11.00** Dave Gorman Goodish Hits **12.00** QI XL **2.00** Not Going Out **2.35** Parks and Recreation **3.25** 8 Out of 10 Cats **4.00** Home Shopping

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20
7.10 Mansfield Park **11.00** Sharpe **1.00** The Duchess of Duke Street **5.00** The Brokenwood Mysteries **7.00** Sue Thomas: FBEye **8.00** Murdoch Mysteries **9.00** Shetland **10.20** Waking the Dead **12.50** Sharpe **2.50** Mansfield Park **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106
6.00 Wild Things **7.00** Road Wars **7.30** Modern Family **8.00** The F1 Show **8.30** Soccer AM: The Best Bits **9.00** PL Prediction Show **9.30** Football's Funniest Moments **10.00** Soccer AM **11.30** The Next Jamie Vardy **12.30** NCIS: Los Angeles **2.30** Modern Family **5.00** Sing: Ultimate A Cappella **6.05** Modern Family **6.30** The Simpsons **8.00** A League of Their Own **9.00** FILM: The Da Vinci Code (2006) (12) Thriller, starring Tom Hanks. **11.50** The Russell Howard Hour **12.50** Stella **1.45** Brit Cops: Rapid Response **2.40** The Blacklist **3.35** Road Wars **4.00** Stargate Atlantis

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108
6.00 Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets **7.50** Urban Secrets **10.30** Flying Monsters with David Attenborough **12.00** Making David Attenborough's Flying Monsters **1.00** House **4.00** Without a Trace **9.00** Game of Thrones **11.30** Last Week Tonight with John Oliver **12.05** Vice Principals **12.40** Real Time with Bill Maher **1.50** The Wire **3.05** Californication **4.15** The Guest Wing

W SKY: 109
6.00 Beverly Hills Pawn **6.55** The Bill **11.55** EastEnders **2.35** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars **5.35** The Secret Life of the Ballroom **6.35** My Family **8.00** John Bishop: In Conversation with Craig Charles **9.00** FILM: Good Will Hunting (1997) (15) Drama, with Matt Damon. **11.30** Louis Theroux: Gambling in Las Vegas **12.50** The Call Centre **1.50** MasterChef Australia **3.00** Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110
7.10 Goodnight Sweetheart **8.20** Lucky Feller **8.55** The Piglet Files **9.30** Butterflies **10.45** Goodnight Sweetheart **11.20** Only Fools and Horses **12.40** David Jason: My Life on Screen **1.40** Rock & Chips **3.00** Only Fools and Horses **1.15** Goodnight Sweetheart **2.30** French and Saunders **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT SKY: 401
6.00 Live Formula 1. The Japanese Grand Prix qualifying session (Start-time 7.00am). **8.40** Paddock Uncut **8.55** Live Test Cricket. South Africa v Bangladesh. **1.45** Live PRO14 Rugby Union. Leinster v Munster (kick-off 2.00pm). **4.00** Live Rugby Championship. South Africa v New Zealand (kick-off 4.05pm). **6.00** Live Super League Grand Final. Coverage of the showpiece game at Old Trafford (kick-off 6.00pm). **8.00** Live World Grand Prix Darts. Coverage of the final. **10.00** Live Fight Night. Anthony Crolla v Ricky Burns. **11.30** Live Rugby Championship. Argentina v Australia (kick-off 11.30pm). **1.45** Sporting Triumphs **2.00** Through the Night **5.00** Live Formula 1. **5.30** Live Formula 1.

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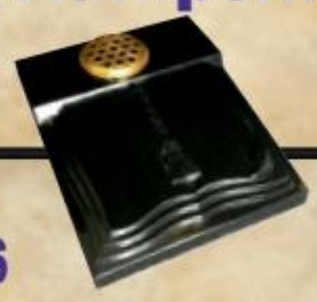

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Sunday October 8th

BBC1

DAYTIME

9.00 The Andrew Marr Show (S) **10.00 Sunday Morning Live** (S) **11.00 Sunday Politics** (S) **12.15 Bargain Hunt** (S)(R) **1.00 BBC News** (S) **1.15 Homes Under the Hammer** (S)(R) **2.15 Money for Nothing** (S)(R) **3.00 Escape to the Country** (S)(R) **3.45 Points of View** (S) **4.00 Lifeline** (S) **4.10 Songs of Praise** (S) **4.45 Who Do You Think You Are?** (S)(R) **5.45 BBC News** (S) **6.05 BBC Regional News** (S) **6.15 Countryfile** (S)

7

7.15 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results Another couple leave the contest. (S)

8

8.00 Antiques Roadshow Fiona Bruce presents the show from Nymans Gardens near Crawley. (S)

9

9.00 The Last Post Mary goes into labour while her husband is on a mission. (S)

10

10.00 BBC News (S)
10.20 BBC Regional News; Weather (S)
10.30 Sir Bobby Charlton at 80 The life and career of the World Cup-winning footballer. (S)

11

11.35 The Women's Football Show A look at the biggest issues in the women's game. (S)

AFTER 12

12.10 The Graham Norton Show (S)(R) **1.00** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **1.05** BBC News (S)

BBC2

8.25 The Beechgrove Garden (S) **8.55 Countryfile** (S)(R) **9.50 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites** (S) **11.20 Mary Berry's Foolproof Cooking** (S)(R) **11.50 My Life on a Plate** (S)(R) **12.35 Alfred Hitchcock: Talking Pictures** (S)(R) **1.15 FILM Dial M for Murder (1954) (PG)** (S) **3.00 Gymnastics: World Championships** (S) **5.00 Rugby League Grand Final Highlights** (S) **6.00 Top Gear** (S)(R)

7.00 Russia with Simon Reeve The adventurer embarks on a journey across the country. (S)(R)

8.00 Dragons' Den Business plans include a cycling navigation device. (S)

9.00 Louis Theroux: Dark States – Heroin Town Louis Theroux reports on the rise in heroin use in America. (S)

10.00 Snowfall Hard-hitting drama, starring Damson Idris. (S)
10.55 Mock the Week With Angela Barnes, Ed Byrne, Ed Gamble, Milton Jones and Nish Kumar. (S)(R)

11.30 FILM Oranges and Sunshine (2010) (15) Fact-based drama, starring Emily Watson and Hugo Weaving. (S)

1.10 Sign Zone: Question Time (S)(R) **2.10** Holby City (S)(R) **3.10** This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

9.05 Scrambled!: Adventure Time (S) **9.25 ITV News** (S) **9.30 Best Walks with a View with Julia Bradbury** (S)(R) **10.00 Peston on Sunday** (S) **10.55 Amazing Animal Births** (S)(R) **11.25 Robson Green's Coastal Lives** (S)(R) **11.55 Bigheads** (S)(R) **12.55 ITV News;** Weather (S) **1.00 The Chase** (S)(R) **2.00 The X Factor: Bootcamp** (S)(R) **3.30 Victoria** (S)(R) **4.30 World Cup Qualifier Live** (S)

7.15 ITV Regional News; Weather (S)
7.20 ITV News (S)
7.30 The X Factor: Six Chair Challenge The judges must choose six acts each. (S)

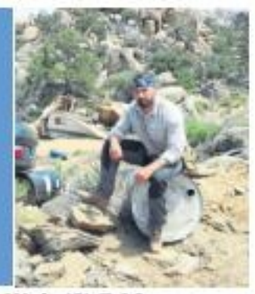
9.00 Victoria The queen seeks sanctuary in the Scottish Highlands. (S)

10.00 ITV News; Weather (S)
10.15 Peston on Sunday Political magazine. (S)(R)

11.15 World Cup Qualifier Highlights Action from the latest fixtures. (S)

12.15 Liar (S)(R) **1.10** Jackpot247 **3.00** Motorsport UK (S) **3.50** British Superbike Championship Highlights (S) **4.40** ITV Nightscreen **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show (S)(R)

Channel 4



6.20 Kevin Can Wait (S) **7.10 Everybody Loves Raymond** (S)(R) **8.30 Frasier** (S)(R) **9.30 Sunday Brunch** Hosted by Tim Lovejoy and Simon Rimmer. (S) **12.30 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast** (S)(R) **1.35 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **3.00 Formula 1 Japanese Grand Prix Highlights** Action from the Suzuka Circuit. (S) **5.15 The Great British Bake Off** (S)(R) **6.30 Channel 4 News** (S)

7.00 Escape to the Chateau Dick and Angel look ahead to wedding season. Last in the series. (S)

8.00 Escape Engineers must escape from a canyon. (S)

9.00 Electric Dreams: Crazy Diamond A man is drawn into a life of crime by a synthetic being. (S)

10.05 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown With guests Jason Manford and Katherine Ryan. (S)(R)

11.05 FILM The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (2013) (PG) Comedy drama, with Ben Stiller and Kristen Wiig. (S)

1.10 WWII's Great Escapes: The Freedom Trails (S)(R) **2.00** Britain's Ancient Tracks with Tony Robinson (S)(R) **2.55** Gillette World Sport (S) **3.20** KOTV Boxing Weekly (S) **3.45** Mobil 1 The Grid (S)(R) **4.15** Best of Both Worlds (S)(R) **5.05** Four in a Bed (S)(R)

Channel 5

6.00 Milkshake! 9.25 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (S)(R) **10.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush** (S)(R) **10.35 Police Interceptors** (S)(R) **12.30 FILM Innerspace (1987) (PG)** (S) **2.50 FILM Mannequin (1987) (PG)** (S) **3.50 5 News Update** (S) **3.55 FILM Mannequin (1987) (PG)** (S) **4.35 FILM Annie (1982) (U)** (S) **5.35 5 News Update** (S) **5.40 FILM Annie (1982) (U)** (S)

7.05 Deep-Sea Super Predator Documentary following the search for a mysterious creature. (S)(R)

8.00 Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights Highlights from the sixth round of matches. (S)
8.55 5 News Weekend (S)

9.00 FILM Wild Card (2015) (15) Premiere. Action thriller, starring Jason Statham and Michael Angarano. (S)

10.00 5 News Update (S)
10.05 FILM Wild Card (2015) (15) Premiere. Action thriller, starring Jason Statham and Michael Angarano. (S)

11.05 FILM Safe (2012) (15) Action thriller, starring Jason Statham and Catherine Chan. (S)

12.50 Car Crash TV (S) **1.15** SuperCasino (S) **3.10 FILM A Lonely Place to Die (2011) (15)** Thriller, starring Melissa George. (S) **4.50** Divine Designs (S)(R) **5.15** Wildlife SOS (S)(R) **5.40** Chinese Food in Minutes (S)(R) **5.50** Access (S)(R)

DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **6.10** Totally You've Been Framed! Gold **7.05** Coronation Street **10.00** 2Awesome: Guidance **10.30** 2Awesome: LA Story **10.45** 2Awesome: Cheerleaders: Steel Rays **11.10** 2Awesome: Ready, Set, Style **11.20** 2Awesome: Third Wheel **11.50** The X Factor: Bootcamp **1.20** Take Me Out **2.35** You've Been Framed: Gold Top 100 Animals **3.35** FILM: Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (2010) (U) Comedy sequel, starring Chris O'Donnell. **4.35** FYI Daily **4.40** FILM: Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (2010) (U) Concluded. **5.15** FILM: Despicable Me 2 (2013) (U) Animated comedy sequel, with the voice of Steve Carell **6.15** FYI Daily **6.20** FILM: Despicable Me 2 (2013) (U) Concluded. **7.20** FILM: The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (2014) (12) Fantasy adventure, starring Martin Freeman and Richard Armitage. **8.20** FYI Daily **8.25** FILM: The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (2014) (12) Concluded. **10.00** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.55** The Cleveland Show **1.25** Through the Keyhole **2.25** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Bertie and Elizabeth **7.50** Heartbeat **9.50** Murder, She Wrote **1.00** FILM: Blue Murder at St Trinian's (1957) (PG) Comedy, starring Lionel Jeffries. **2.05** FYI Daily **2.10** FILM: Blue Murder at St Trinian's (1957) (PG) Concluded. **2.55** FILM: Columbo: By Dawn's Early Light (1974) (PG) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk and Patrick McGoohan. **5.00** Lewis **7.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **9.00** Sunday Night at the Palladium **10.00** Honest **11.05** FILM: Changeling (2008) (15) Fact-based drama, starring Angelina Jolie. **12.05** FYI Daily **12.10** FILM: Changeling (2008) (15) **1.50** The Knock **2.45** Mr Selfridge **3.35** Lewis **5.15** Judge Judy **5.35** ITV3 Nightscreen

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Only Connect **7.30** University Challenge **8.00** Addicted to Sheep **9.00** Horizon **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** The Search for a New Earth **12.00** Dancing Cheek to Cheek: An Intimate History of Dance **1.00** Addicted to Sheep **2.00** Horizon **3.00** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Rude(ish) Tube **6.25** The Goldbergs **8.25** Hollyoaks **11.00** Don't Tell the Bride **12.00** My Hotter Half **1.00** The Big Bang Theory: Biggest Bangs **7.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00** FILM: Ice Age 3: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (2009) (U) Animated adventure sequel, with the voice of John Leguizamo. **9.55** FILM: Speed 2: Cruise Control (1997) (PG) Action thriller sequel, starring Sandra Bullock. **12.20** Naked Attraction **1.30** Gogglebox **2.35** Rude Tube **3.30** Hollyoaks

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Location, Location, Location **12.05** Come Dine with Me **2.45** Four in a Bed **5.25** Come Dine with Me **8.00** The Secret Life of the Zoo **9.00** Car SOS **10.00** 24 Hours in A&E **11.05** 999: What's Your Emergency? **12.05** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **2.00** Car SOS **3.05** 8 Out of 10 Cats **3.45** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 The Great St Trinian's Train Robbery (1966) (PG) Comedy, starring Frankie Howerd. **1.00** Hercules (1983) (15) Fantasy adventure, starring Lou Ferrigno. **3.05** Stuart Little 2 (2002) (U) Family adventure sequel, with the voice of Michael J Fox. **4.40** Dr Dolittle 2 (2001) (PG) Comedy sequel, starring Eddie Murphy. **6.20** Robin Hood (2010) (12) Medieval adventure, starring Russell Crowe. **9.00** Gladiator (2000) (15) Oscar-winning Roman epic, starring Russell Crowe. **12.00** Knight and Day (2010) (12) Comedy adventure, with Tom Cruise and Cameron Diaz. **2.10** The Selfish Giant (2013) (15) **4.00** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

6.00 Home Shopping **7.10** Top Gear **8.00** Sin City Motors **10.00** Motorway Cops **12.00** Top Gear **1.00** Red Dwarf **3.35** Top Gear **5.00** Gavin & Stacey **7.00** Motorway Cops **8.00** Cops UK: Bodycam Squad **9.00** Have I Got a Bit More Old News for You **10.00** Taskmaster **11.00** Dara O Briain's Go 8 Bit **12.00** Live at the Apollo **1.00** Have I Got a Bit More Old News for You **2.00** Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish **2.50** Parks and Recreation **4.00** Home Shopping

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.00 Mansfield Park **8.00** The Bill **12.00** Death Comes to Pemberley **4.00** Catherine Cookson's The Round Tower **7.00** Murdoch Mysteries **8.00** Father Brown **9.00** Silent Witness **11.30** Taggart **2.25** Mansfield Park **3.25** Garden Hopping **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Hour of Power **7.00** Futurama **8.30** The Simpsons **10.00** Sing: Ultimate A Cappella **11.05** WWE Raw Hlts **12.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **3.00** Modern Family **6.30** The Simpsons **8.00** Duck Quacks Don't Echo **9.00** The Last Ship **10.00** The Force: North East **11.00** The Russell Howard Hour **12.00** Modern Family **1.00** Most Shocking **3.00** The Blacklist **4.00** Stargate Atlantis

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets **8.00** Urban Secrets **11.00** House **2.00** A Plastic Tide **3.00** A Plastic Whale **4.00** Blue Bloods **9.00** Tin Star **10.00** Real Time with Bill Maher **11.10** Dice **11.45** Room 104 **12.20** FILM: Manhunt (2013) (15) **2.20** The Wire **3.35** Californication **4.10** The Guest Wing **5.05** Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets

W SKY: 109

6.10 MasterChef Australia **12.30** Jamie's 30 Minute Meals **1.00** Doctor Who **4.00** My Family **5.20** Outnumbered **8.00** The Secret Life of the Ballroom **9.00** John Bishop: In Conversation with Craig Charles **10.00** The Davina Hour **11.00** Inside the Ambulance **12.00** Traffic Cops **1.00** Life Is Toff **1.40** Judge Faith **2.05** Doctor Who **3.00** Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

7.10 Goodnight Sweetheart **8.15** The Piglet Files **9.25** Butterflies **10.00** Goodnight Sweetheart **11.20** The Piglet Files **11.55** David Jason: My Life on Screen **12.55** Only Fools and Horses **5.05** The Story of Only Fools and Horses **6.05** David Jason: My Life on Screen **7.10** Only Fools and Horses **10.05** Mrs Brown's Boys **10.45** Live at the Apollo **11.50** Goodnight Sweetheart **1.10** The Piglet Files **1.45** Big School **2.45** Harry Hill's TV Burp **3.10** Harry Hill's the Best of TV Burp **3.35** Harry Hill's Best of Christmas TV Burp **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT SKY: 401

8.00 Live ATP Tennis. The Japan Open final. **10.00** Live Test Cricket. South Africa v Bangladesh. **12.30** Live European Tour Golf. The Alfred Dunhill Links Championship. **4.30** Live WCQ. Slovenia v Scotland (kick-off 5.00pm). **7.15** Live WCQ. Norway v Northern Ireland (kick-off 7.45pm). **10.00** Live NFL. A match from the NFL season. **1.00** Live NFL. Houston Texans v Kansas City Chiefs (kick-off 1.30am). **4.30** TBA **5.00** Through the Night

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2 COURSES £12.50 3 COURSES £15.50

STARTERS

Charred Asparagus V GF
Asparagus Puree, Shaved Old Winchester

Duck Liver Parfait GF
Fig & Apple Chutney, Radish & Watercress Salad, Toast

Scottish Smoked Salmon GF
Homemade Irish Soda Bread & Butter, Watercress & Radish Salad

MAINS

Confit Rabbit Leg & Smoked Panchetta Pappardelle Pasta
Tarragon, Baby Spinach & Shaved Old Winchester

Charred Broccoli & Feta Salad V GF Vegan
Chilli & Ginger Dressing, Toasted Nuts & Seeds

Aubrey Allen Onglet Steak GF
Skin on Fries, Radish & Watercress Salad, Garlic Butter
(£2.50 supplement)

Fish & Chips
Tartar Sauce & Smashy Peas

DESSERTS

Spiced Apple Crumble with Double Cream

Strawberry Eton Mess GF

Westcombe Cheddar, Chutney & Crackers GF

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Alfa Romeo Giulia 2.2 Turbo Diesel 180HP Super

'I want to run away with this new love'

By **Tony Yates**

For the last six months I have been waiting for the new Alfa Romeo Giulia to arrive on my driveway – and guess what? It's finally here. I'm not going to get too excited about it because it's just another car right? Actually, scrub that, this is not just another car, this is an Alfa and I'm very excited about it because the Giulia is probably the only car right now that I want to run away with to a remote desert island somewhere.

Maybe that was a little over the top, even for me – but just remember this is no ordinary 'Alfa Romeo'.

Right, now I have that out my system I will quickly calm down and resume my normal mode for the rest of the review. But please be aware that I may at some point burst into uncontrollable rants of love and affection for the Giulia at any given time - so please, be on your guard at all times whilst reading on.

Power & efficiency

My test car was fitted with a 2,143cc 4-cylinder turbo diesel engine with180HP. Top speed is around 143mph and 0-62 is up in 7.0 sec. Well, now we have that bit out the way – what was the engine actually like I hear you shout? Well, for a diesel, I would give it a big fat YES on all levels. Mainly because the engine pulls really well in any gear thanks to a brilliant 8-speed transmission, which also just happens to offer up maximum torque figure of around 450Nm.

Where the Giulia really shines though is in its ability to return over 60mpg (combined) and CO2 emissions as low as 109 g/km, which is just staggering. The engine also feels alive and posied ready for action - exactly how a proper Alfa should feel.

On the road

The suspension is set up in such a way that it works in perfect harmony with the chassis to keep the Giulia not only flat into the corners but also controlled enough on the exit, allowing you to really feel how well all those components are working together to assure you of maximum grip at all times. Plus, of course, it also happens to have that all-important Alfa DNA installed at its heart which also spills out by the bucket load.

Design & technology

On the inside, the Giulia is exciting and the attention to detail on the interior finish is not only good, it's breathtaking. You know this is a real driver's car the moment you sit inside. And it's good to see Alfa hasn't forgotten any of that.

The interior seating is well designed and the seats support you firmly. The cabin is also festooned by a decent amount of quality materials that will wear well for many years to come

Legroom in the back is good for all occupants which makes my life travelling with my children a more happy affair - thanks mainly to the amount of space they had between them limiting the moans of 'he keeps pinching me'. Like I said earlier – the Alfa is a real driver's car, and the Giulia is turning out to be something very special indeed.

Tony Yates can't hide his admiration for the new Alfa Romeo Giulia

Some of the standard equipment includes; 7" TFT colour cluster display, Alfa D.N.A driving mode selector, automatic headlights, dual-zone climate control, rear parking sensors, 8 speaker audio system, cruise control, Forward Collision Warning (FCW), Integrated Brake System (IBS) and Autonomous Emergency Braking (AEB) Plus, an engine start button on the steering wheel which is very cool indeed and a nice touch.

To sum up

The Giulia is a great car - and I want one right now.

Price: From £32,990

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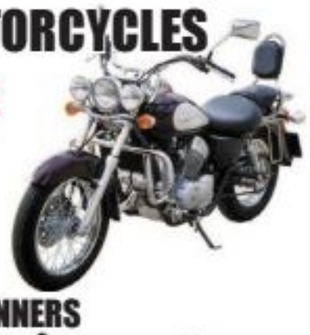

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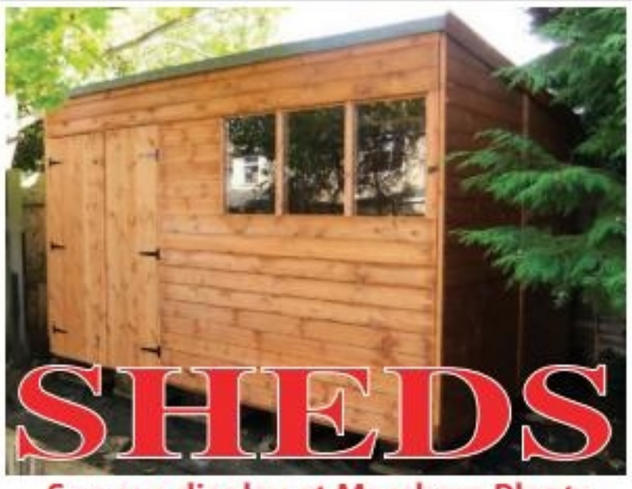

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woman seeking

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PAMELA, 54, very attractive feminine girl, great personality, loves to laugh seeks well-built, experienced guy for quality times together. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428885**

AISHA, petite Asian lady, just 23yrs, living at home but hoping to meet a sophisticated, well travelled man to teach me the ways of the world. Pls be discreet as my parents are very strict. **Text only. Box: 4003844**

CLARE, 52, attractive with great womanly curves, seeks intelligent, lively male to share the fun, spontaneous side of life with. Age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428781**

TABITHA, attractive well groomed lady, 32yrs, own house, good job, hoping for some naught text chat with older gent. **Text Only. Box: 4028177**

KATHERINE 43, petite, brown-eyed brunette seeks slim male with dark hair for some serious fun and passion. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428753**

STEPHANIE, super sexy black mamma, 55yrs young with curves in all the right places. Call me and you wont be sorry, we can have the time of our lives. **Text Only. Box: 4060220**

KAY 41, saucy redhead with fabulous curves, loves rock music, looking for smart tall dark guy to pamper and be looked after in return. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428751**

CANDIDA, 52yrs, married lady, very well educated with good looks and dress sense. Unappreciated by older husband and hoping for some fun with discreet chap. **Text Only. Box: 4010802**

ATTRACTIVE lady, 45yrs, loves animals, music, socialising. If you have similar interests then call or text me. Lets meet up and spend time together. Looks unimportant, must have GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428811**

CHLOE, very attractive girl, 32yrs, long hair and lovely teeth, I like to take care of myself. I want a man who will pamper me. In return you wont be disappointed as I am super sexy. **Text Only. Box: 4070336**

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PIPPA, recently divorced lady, 46yrs, hoping to get back into dating and have some fun with a guy any age. Must be a laugh and willing to have a go at most things. **Text Only. Box: 4101590**

HARRIETT 42yrs, blue eyed brunette with long lets and decent curves! Looking for a cheeky adventurous man for fun only. I live alone so can accommodate and can travel. Discretion assured. ACA. Give me a try. **Tel: 0906 515 3031 Box 426205**

MERRY widow, 64yrs, lonely and kind. Hoping to meet a kind gent, please call, you won't be sorry, I'm good company and will care for you. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428805**

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673**

MICHELLE, 44yrs, attractive lady, great company, hoping to meet mature gent 50+ for loving relationship. ACA/Text answered. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428803**

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. **Tel: No: 0906 515 3011 Box: 409715**

SUE, attractive lady, genuine with many interests. I'm attractive with feminine curves. If you are a caring loving man under 70yrs call me for good times. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428801**

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EMILY, mature well educated lady, blonde and smart and broadminded seeks gent any age for no strings fun. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3023 Box 421375**

SUSAN, articulate interesting lady, 60yrs, loves countryside and music. Hoping to meet a genuine man of any age. All calls and texts answered. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428797**

TAMIKA, mature black beauty, hourglass figure and open minded. Pls call if you are discreet, broad minded and nice. I can travel and accommodate. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3007 Box 422365**

FRAN young 52, happy go lucky, warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind male for a loving relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428655**

SAMANTHA, 35yrs, attractive brunette with own business, seeks adventurous gent for casual relationship. **Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box 425979**

LUCINA, exotic Filipino, petite female, 44, loves to cook romantic meals in, seeks loving male to share relaxing nights with good wine, great company and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428575**

DEBORAH 41, intelligent brunette, lovely brown eyes, discreet, many interests, seeks similar male to share fun and good conversation. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428561**

CARMEL, open minded naughty lady seeks a broad minded strict man to unleash her wilder side. Age/looks unimportant but no time wasters please. **Tel: 0906 515 3043 Box 426851**

HEATHER, 54yrs, slim brunette with petite figure, loves keep fit. Seeks chap for nights out, fun times, must be honest and kind. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428491**

man seeking

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MALE, 59, N/S, medium build, 5ft7, from Berkshire, no ties, enjoys days out, sporting events and lots more, seeking a nice lady, 30-60, who is honest and reliable, for friendship and hopefully more. If you would like to get in touch please do. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428289**

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MALE, 60s, looking for an open-minded mature lady for fun times. **Pls text replies. Mailbox: 6028699**

MALE, 59, medium build, 5ft6, from Berkshire, no ties, enjoys days out and sporting events, seeking a nice lady, 30-60, who is honest and reliable, for friendship and hopefully more. If you would like to get in touch please do. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428289**

DAVID, no ties, retired but I keep busy, seeks lady to enjoy country walks, holidays, in particular the Isle of Wight, where I have a holiday home, for nice get aways together. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428099**

RETIRED white gent, living in Bucks, N/S, clean shaven, with GSOH, WLTM tactile, adventurous lady, with OHOC, status not important, for company, conversation, going out to concerts, eating in and out and travel. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 428063**

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Sport

Building on constructor's place

By Adam Flinn

F1 - Williams

WILLIAMS scored a useful six points at Sunday's Malaysian Grand Prix to solidify their hold on fifth place in the constructors' championship standings.

Lance Stroll and Felipe Massa were eighth and ninth respectively for the Grove-based team to open a 13-point lead over sixth-placed Toro Rosso, who didn't score at the weekend.

Both drivers made strong starts to Sunday's race, with Massa getting as high as fifth before coming into contact with Esteban Ocon's Force India and dropping back with damage to his floor.

Massa jumped ahead of Stroll during the pitstops by virtue of stopping first and the team elected to reverse the positions back shortly afterwards.

However the act of doing so allowed McLaren driver Stoffel Vandoorne to stay ahead of the pair, and the three drivers remained in that formation for the remainder of the race.

Paddy Lowe, Williams' chief technical officer, said: "Since Lance, who previously had the lead, ended up behind Felipe after the pitstops we felt it was correct to swap the places, as we also knew Felipe's car was carrying some damage.

Lance Stroll and Felipe Massa battle for position during Sunday's Malaysian Grand Prix
Picture: *Williams Martini Racing*

"Unfortunately, in the execution of that we lost a potential position to Vandoorne coming out of the pits.

"It was a very long second stint for Lance and Felipe, but the tyres lasted well and we held position to the finish with good points in eighth and ninth."

Stroll was then involved in a bizarre incident with Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel after the race had finished.

On the slow-down lap back to the pits, Vettel drove in front of Stroll and the Canadian clouted the back of his car, leaving the Ferrari with three wheels and a lot of rear damage.

Stroll said: "I was on the in-lap, on my normal line, picking up rubber, doing all my switch changes and shutting down the car.

"Sebastian came flying by me, pushing round the outside like the race was still on."

It has also been reported Williams are going to run a test with Polish driver Robert Kubica and reserve driver Paul di Resta later this month as they decide on their 2018 line-up.

The team are thought to be keen to take on Kubica, who had been considered for a drive by Renault earlier this year six years after a rally crash left him with limited movement in his hand.

Kubica and Massa are understood to be the most likely candidates to partner Stroll at the team next year, with di Resta as an outside shot.

This weekend the teams head to Suzuka for the Japanese Grand Prix.

Hoping for better in Japan after poor race in Malaysia

F1 - Renault

AFTER high expectations going into Sunday's Malaysian Grand Prix, Renault endured a bitterly disappointing afternoon as both cars finished well outside the points.

The Enstone-based team had thought they would have the fourth-quickest car going into the weekend but a poor first lap set the tone for the rest of the race.

Nico Hulkenberg lost four positions and in an attempt to make up lost ground, and went with an aggressive strategy to pit early.

However this didn't work as he rejoined in traffic, and the move backfired further when he was forced to make a second pitstop late on as his tyres degraded before finishing 16th.

Jolyon Palmer didn't fare much better, as he spun twice within three corners to slip back to 15th at the end.

Renault's managing director Cyril Abiteboul said after the race: "After a very poor first lap from both our cars, we were on the back foot and stayed there until the end of the race.

"It's the last time we want to see this and we will take the necessary measures to better understand our lack of performance this weekend.

"I am confident that we will recover and will be back on track in Suzuka."

Nico Hulkenberg leads Jolyon Palmer during Sunday's race
Picture: *Renault Sport Formula One Team*

'We showed the car can do it, even if we didn't get points'

F1 - Haas

DESPITE not picking up any points Banbury-based Haas were relatively satisfied with their performance in Sunday's Malaysian Grand Prix.

It looked as though the team would be in for a long afternoon after only qualifying 16th and 17th on the grid, with the track not suiting their car.

However Kevin Magnussen made up a heap of positions at the start to be in ninth by the end of lap two.

Unfortunately for him he didn't have the pace to sustain his strong start, and would eventually slip back to 12th by the finish.

In contrast team-mate Romain Grosjean was forced off track by rookie Toro Rosso driver Pierre Gasly on the opening lap and dropped to last before making his way back up to 13th.

Team principal Guenther Steiner said: "A better than expected end of the weekend, even if we didn't get points, which is always what we're here for.

"I think we had a good race, we overtook a lot of other people and we showed that the car can do it.

"It would have been nice to have a point, but we're still proud from where we started off and where we ended up."

Tyre trauma ends disappointing season

Touring cars

CHOOSING the wrong tyres for the start of race one meant Jason Plato came away from Sunday's British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) finale with no points.

It capped a hugely disappointing season for the Oxford-based driver as he finished 12th in the final standings – his lowest position in 19 seasons in the BTCC.

Plato had qualified 10th for the first race of the day on Sunday, and with a damp track elected to fit the wet tyres for the start.

This initially looked to be the correct choice, but as the track dried he and all the other cars on the wets dropped back and he eventually finished a lap down in 28th.

Race two only saw Plato recover to 24th, and a 22nd-place finish in race three concluded his season.

At the same time Plato's Subaru team-mate Ash Sutton picked up two podiums to seal the 2017 title, finishing 21 points ahead of nearest rival Colin Turkington with a tally of 372.

Plato collected 146 points over the season, which included one solitary win at Knockhill and three other podiums across the 30 races.

The 2018 season is due to kick off at the Brands Hatch indy circuit on April 8.

Fitting the wrong tyres in race one effectively ruined Jason Plato's weekend
Picture: *btcc.net*

Eddie 'enjoys' weekend off after missing Masters cut

Golf

Eddie Pepperell's fine form came to an end in Newcastle

ABINGDON golfer Eddie Pepperell's fine run of form came to a crashing end when he missed the cut at the British Masters.

The Frilford Heath member, in confident mood after recording top-five finishes in his previous three tournaments, made a steady start at Close House, Newcastle.

He was well in the hunt after carding a first round of one-under par on Thursday.

But Pepperell blew his chances of another successful tournament with a disastrous four-over par second round, causing him to miss out on the weekend by five shots.

Three dropped shots in the first six holes fluffed the 26-year-old's chances of a four-day tournament.

The world 204 recovered a shot on the 17th hole (having started on the 10th) but dropped further shots on 18 and four, meaning he finished on three-over par and tied 107th, his lowest finish since July.

Paul Dunne put in an impressive nine-under par final day performance to claim the title with a score of 20-under par, three shots ahead of nearest challenger Rory McIlroy.

Pepperell tweeted on Saturday: "Ahh shoot. One week too far. A weekend off probably a good thing. One of my favourite events next week to look forward to."

He tees off at the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship at St Andrews today (Thursday).

Sport

Cock-a-hoops after FA Cup win

By George Welch

Oxford City

Oxford City players celebrate Rob Sinclair's goal deep into stoppage time. Picture: Michael Allen

OXFORD City are one win away from the first round proper of the Emirates FA Cup after leaving it late to beat Leiston 4-2 at Court Place Farm on Saturday.

The Hoops will host league rivals Bognor Regis Town in the fourth qualifying round of the competition on October 14.

Coincidently, the National League South pair were due to face each other in Bognor in the league that day.

City squeezed into the next round thanks to two stoppage time goals from Ezra Forde and Rob Sinclair.

Leiston, flying high in the Bostik League Premier Division, the level below Mark Jones' side, led twice in the third qualifying round tie.

The visitors took an early lead against the run of play when a Byron Lawrence effort deflected off Godfrey Poku and past Jack Stephens in the Oxford goal.

But the lead only lasted for 10 minutes, City drawing level when Joe Oastler netted with a firm near-post header from a corner.

The lively Matt Blake fired a first time finish into the far corner to give the Suffolk side another shock lead with 15 minutes to go.

The goal sparked the Hoops into life, equalising for a second time with nine minutes to spare through Dave Pearce's half volley from 12 yards.

City continued pressing and were rewarded in the first of five added minutes when Forde's backheel found the bottom corner.

The young striker then turned provider when he squared to an unmarked Sinclair who tapped home to secure the win with a minute left.

Hoops gaffer Jones admitted he would have taken a draw when his side levelled for the second time, for which he praised his players.

He said: "One thing we can't be accused of is a lack of character. There's been a lot of questions asked of us but I don't think we can fault the lads' attitude or character because we've gone 2-1 down with 15 minutes to go [and we've won].

"I'm really pleased for the players. We have had a lot of disappointment over the first few weeks of the season."

Defeat to lower league side

Banbury United

BANBURY United crashed out of the Emirates FA Cup after an embarrassing 3-2 home defeat to Shildon in the third qualifying round on Saturday.

The County Durham side, who play two levels below United, came from behind to cause the upset.

Defender Luke Carnell had a header cleared off the line for Banbury before the Puritans took the lead on the half hour when Tom Winters drove into the top corner.

But before United fans could relax and look forward to Monday's draw, Shildon, of Ebac Northern League Division One, struck back three minutes later.

Adam Burnicle beat Jack Harding at the near post to level the tie and both side's had chances to lead at half time.

Jefferson Louis wasted a chance for Banbury, while Burnicle got his angles wrong when he saw Harding off his line.

But it was the underdogs who would find the back of the net twice after the break to secure their passage into the last qualifying round.

Dan Moore headed home on the hour and Burnicle fired into the corner to make it 3-1 to the visitors.

Banbury turned up the pressure in response and Winters had a deflected effort hacked off the line.

Shildon fans celebrate the shock result at the full time whistle
Picture: *sportsshots.org.uk*

A headed Ricky Johnson goal with eight minutes to go made things interesting and United had another effort cleared off the line in the dying stages. But it wasn't to be and Shildon held on.

Banbury return to league action with a trip to Basingstoke on Saturday.

Raining goals as Freds notch up sixth win in a row

Hellenic round up

WANTAGE Town have extended their unbeaten run in the Hellenic Premier League to six games after following up Saturday's 3-1 win over Highmoor Ibis by thrashing Woodley United 4-0 on Tuesday.

Stephen Robertson hit two in Saturday's match, after Jack Dunmall had got Wantage off the mark on 60 minutes.

And it was a similar looking scoresheet on Tuesday as Robertson again hit two and Dunmall one, while Bradley Cox scored the other.

The results put Wantage fifth in the table with 25 points, and face a tough game at home to Bracknell Town on Saturday.

Bracknell will be full of confidence after smashing 10 goals past Oxford City Nomads over the course of their two games on Saturday and Tuesday.

Nomads conceded five in each, and weren't able to score themselves in Saturday's match but did at least put one past Bracknell on Tuesday.

There was disappointment for Abingdon United on Saturday as they were beaten 3-0 at home to Binfield.

Abingdon are 13th in the table with 12 points, while Nomads sit 16th on 10.

Nomads return to league action away at Brimscombe & Thrupp on Saturday, while Abingdon play London Rangers in the Bluefin Sports Challenge Cup.

Evo-Stik round up

DIDCOT Town got their campaign back on track with a 4-2 home win against Yate Town on Saturday.

The Railwaymen won their first game in five attempts thanks to goals from four different scorers.

First half strikes from George Reid and Sam Barder and second half Seth Humphries and Louis Joyce goals did the damage at the Loop Meadow Stadium as Town climbed to 10th.

Elsewhere in the Evo-Stik South West, North Leigh lost 1-0 at Taunton Town to extend their losing steak to three games and Kidlington were held 2-2 at home to Slimbridge.

Thame United secured their first home win of the Evo-Stik South East season with a 3-1 win against Bedford Town. The prolific Dan West notched a hat-trick for United, who are up to 11th in the league.

Stars win never in doubt as Jets crash to 8-2 defeat

Ice hockey

WINLESS Slough Jets were no match for an impressive Oxford City Stars who swept aside their visitors 8-2 at Oxpens Road on Sunday.

The Stars, who are second in the NIHL2 table after winning three of their opening four matches, got off to a flying start and looked certain of the points from the moment they were ahead.

A Kamil Kinkor wraparound goal and an Alex Staples effort put the home side firmly in control within nine minutes.

That's the way it stayed until man of the match Jason Ikin extended the lead at the start of the second period with a convincing finish.

Slough's Lukas Smital carved through four Oxford players before finishing to get the Jets up and running on 34 minutes.

But just two minutes later, not only had the Stars regained their three-goal advantage, they had extended it.

Dax Hedges and Dom Hopkins responded immediately for Oxford to give the hosts a 5-1 lead heading into the final period.

The Jets enjoyed a second consolation goal on 46 minutes thanks to a Liam Underdown strike but there was still time for Oxford to retaliate.

A Connor Redmond goal and a Joe Edwards double made the score more emphatic with a three-minute onslaught on 51 minutes to secure the crushing win.

Stars are at home again on Sunday against the Invicta Mustangs.

Oxford City Stars players celebrate
Picture: *Paul Foster*

Emirates FA Cup third qualifying round
Saturday 30 September
Banbury United 2-3 Shildon
Oxford City 4-2 Leiston

Evo-Stik South East
Saturday 30 September
Thame United 3-1 Bedford Town

Evo-Stik South West
Saturday 30 September
Didcot Town 4-2 Yate Town
Taunton Town 1-0 **North Leigh**
Kidlington 2-2 Slimbridge

Big Free Bet Challenge Cup first round
Tuesday 3 October
Didcot Town 1-1 **Banbury United** (Didcot win on penalties)
Thame United 0-4 Kings Langley
Wednesday 4 October
Kidlington v Swindon Supermarine

Uhlsport Hellenic League Premier Division
Saturday 30 September
Abingdon United 0-3 Binfield
Bracknell Town 5-0 **Oxford City Nomads**
Highmoor Ibis 1-3 **Wantage Town**
Tuesday 3 October
Oxford City Nomads 1-5 Bracknell Town
Wantage Town 4-0 Woodley United

Promising start to season for United women

OUFC Women

NEW signing Emily Allen celebrated her first goal for Oxford United Women as the U's made it two wins from two with a 3-1 win at Watford Ladies on Sunday.

Hannah Short and Kayleigh Hines netted in the first half before Sarah Jones halved the deficit for the Hornets just before the break.

Former Cardiff player Allen wrapped up back-to-back wins with a fine finish 12 minutes from time to put the U's top of the embryonic WSL2 table.

Allen, who boasts Champions League experience, intercepted Watford's attempt to play out the back and ran through on goal to slot past the keeper and into the net.

The 25-year-old said: "I thought it [today] went really well. We came here with a game plan and we stuck to it really well.

"We did what we had to up top – all of our goals were decent today and we're happy with another three points.

"[I've settled in] pretty well so far. We've got a really good understanding already. It's only been two games but everyone's gelled really well."

When asked what was going through her mind as she bore down on goal, the versatile midfielder/forward said: "[I just thought:] don't sky it. I think the keeper thought I was going across goal so I did her with the eyes and put it near post."

United look to make it a hat-trick of wins when they host Doncaster Rovers Belles at Court Place Farm on Saturday.

United put on classy display for Posh win

By George Welch

Peterborough United 1

Jack Marriott 15

Oxford United 4

Josh Ruffels 48, Wes Thomas 53, Joe Rothwell 75, Agon Mehmeti 82

Attendance: 6,153 (757 away)

WHATEVER Pep Clotet said at half time, it worked.

Trailing high-flying Peterborough United 1-0 at the break, his Oxford United side were staring down the barrel of a fourth successive defeat.

But the U's, who were second best for the bulk of the first half, regained their confidence to blow away their hosts with a four-goal second half blitz and a memorable 4-1 away win.

Admittedly Clotet's men received a helping hand from an error strewn Posh defence, but United play well when Jack Payne plays well – and the man on loan from Huddersfield was unplayable in the second half.

The attacking midfielder led the stunning fight back by assisting all four goals – if you include his rebounded shot for the final goal – to help snap United's three-match losing streak.

Payne laid on goals for Josh Ruffels (48 minutes), Wes Thomas (53), Joe Rothwell (75) and Agon Mehmeti (82) as the U's ran riot and made Jack Marriott's 15th minute opener for the Posh a distant memory.

Afterwards Clotet praised his team for sticking to their principles and fighting back for a vital and timely win.

The Spaniard said: "It was a team that, despite coming from a really tough week last week, kept their belief and looked for more unity.

"After every setback we got even more united and stronger."

He added: "We were losing at half time and the lads put everything into the pitch and they managed to breathe when in the final third.

"We have been a little bit short of being clinical in the last few games but today, with a little less pressure, it has been pleasing to see us be more clinical and claim the win.

"The fans that saw that game, they would have enjoyed it a lot because they found an Oxford side that is working for each other, has the spirit, plays good football and works for each other.

"Together with our fans we managed to turn three loses into a win doing it our way and trusting our football."

Jack Payne was unplayable in the second half and made the difference for the U's
Picture: *Steve Daniels*

Forget goal, winning is all that matters

AGON Mehmeti celebrated his first goal in English football in Oxford United's 4-1 dismantling of Peterborough United on Saturday – but ending a three-match losing run was the only thing that mattered to the striker.

The Albanian tapped home Oxford's fourth goal with basically his first touch after replacing fellow goal-scorer Wes Thomas on 79 minutes.

It only took him three minutes from being introduced to make his mark and net his first U's goal.

Although Mehmeti was delighted to get off the mark, the forward, who signed on a free transfer last month, was happier to see the team bounce back to winning ways.

He said: "The performance was top class. It's not easy to come here and win like this, especially when they scored an early goal.

"But we showed good character and we stuck together like a team, like a family and we've won the game easily. It was great."

Mehmeti said negativity surrounding a dip in form didn't impact the players.

He said: "Some people were extremely negative but I've been in this position before – even worse – and the main thing is that you stick together and you believe.

"We did and for us it wasn't a big deal because it's part of football.

"We were positive – we knew that we made a lot of mistakes in the games before but we learn every day."

However, Mehmeti is set for a spell on the sidelines after injuring his hamstring against Brighton on Tuesday.

Van Kessel puts international duty on hold

GINO van Kessel will be available for Saturday's home game against AFC Wimbledon after delaying his international duty.

The forward, who netted twice against Brighton's academy side on Tuesday, was called up by Caribbean side Curaçao for their friendly match against Qatar next week.

He was initially scheduled to miss United's League One match against the Dons at the weekend.

But van Kessel, who has scored seven times in his previous 17 internationals, asked permission from the Curaçao FA to be available for the league game before flying out on Saturday night to join the squad.

The request was granted and he will link up with the Curaçao players ahead of their game next Tuesday.

Van Kessel, on loan from Czech side Slavia Prague, has scored four goals in four starts and six substitute appearances for Oxford.

Curaçao, ranked 86th in the FIFA world rankings, had their World Cup dream ended by El Salvador in 2015.

They lost all three of their CONCACAF Gold Cup matches in July, losing 2-0 against Jamaica, El Salvador and Mexico. Van Kessel played in all three matches.

The U's will be without right back Canice Carroll at the weekend due to his call up to the Republic of Ireland Under-19 squad.

The Irish youngsters have three European Championship games, which started against Azerbaijan last night.

Groin injury forces Hall out after good start

OXFORD United winger Rob Hall will be out of action for a week to 10 days after picking up a groin injury in Saturday's 4-1 win at Peterborough.

The 23-year-old, who picked up the inaugural Checkatrade Trophy player of the round award this week, was forced off after just 10 minutes against the Posh following a block tackle.

However, first team coach Derek Fazackerley said the injury isn't as bad as first anticipated but he's likely to be ruled out for the AFC Wimbledon game on Saturday.

"It has settled down over the weekend and we're looking at seven to 10 days, maybe even this weekend," he added.

Faz admitted the weekend's thumping of Posh was an important win as much as it was impressive following a string of defeats to Blackpool, Walsall and Bury.

Rob Hall with his Checkatrade Trophy player of the round award
Picture: *OUFC*

He said: "In terms of performance, to win 4-1 away from home is fantastic at any time but coming on the back of three successive defeats when there was a bit of pressure building up around the place it gives us a good feeling.

"You have some difficult weeks in football – and certainly the week before was a difficult week for us – but the players, staff and everybody responded well.

"And once again on Saturday we had some fantastic support and we enjoyed the fixture and the win."

The assistant coach was sent to the stands after some over exuberant celebrations when Joe Rothwell netted the third goal.

SkyBet League 1		GP	GD	PTS
1	Shrewsbury Town	11	10	29
2	Wigan Athletic	11	14	25
3	Bradford City	11	6	23
4	Peterborough United	11	5	20
5	Charlton Athletic	11	4	20
6	Blackburn Rovers	10	7	19
7	Scunthorpe United	11	6	19
8	Rotherham United	11	8	18
9	Blackpool	11	3	18
10	MK Dons	11	0	17
11	Fleetwood Town	10	0	16
12	Southend United	11	-2	16
13	Oxford United	11	4	15
14	Bristol Rovers	11	-6	15
15	Portsmouth	11	1	14
16	Walsall	11	-5	13
17	Rochdale	11	-3	11
18	Oldham Athletic	11	-9	10
19	Doncaster Rovers	11	-3	9
20	Bury	11	-5	9
21	AFC Wimbledon	11	-6	9
22	Northampton Town	11	-8	8
23	Gillingham	11	-9	7
24	Plymouth Argyle	11	-12	5

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Sport

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Gulls swoop to take extra point as U's miss penalty

By George Welch

Oxford United 2

Gino van Kessel 21, 28

Brighton U21 2

James Tilley 36, Dan Mandriou 67

(Brighton win 5-4 on penalties and gain the extra point)

Attendance: 1,074 (64 away)

AN experimental Oxford United side threw away a 2-0 lead in the Checkatrade Trophy before losing on penalties to Brighton & Hove Albion's academy side on Tuesday.

Gino van Kessel ended his six-game wait for a goal with two first half strikes, but it was only enough for a point as Brighton scored all their penalties to bag the extra point at the Kassam Stadium.

Brighton fought back with long distance strikes from James Tilley and Dan Mandriou to cap a decent comeback for the young Seagulls.

Joe Rothwell was the only one to miss from the spot in a game that was played in front of just 1,074 fans – United's second lowest home attendance of all-time.

Pep Clotet, the United boss, shuffled his team around from the weekend's 4-1 league win at Peterborough and went with an experimental 3-5-2 formation, making eight changes in the process.

The night started badly for the U's as Agon Mehmeti's full debut lasted less than five minutes before he was stretchered off.

But United took control of the tie midway through the first half with two goals in seven minutes.

Gino van Kessel shoots to give United the lead while Agon Mehmeti's full debut lasted less than five minutes after he pulled a hamstring
Pictures: *Steve Daniels*

Van Kessel opened his account for the evening with a deflected effort on 21 minutes before striking quickly afterwards from 12 yards for his fourth Oxford goal.

Scott Shearer, making his United debut, interrupting Simon Eastwood's 75 game run in goal in the process, was beaten shortly before half time when Tilley let rip from the edge of the area.

Van Kessel nearly made it 3-1 just before the hour but Brighton steadily improved after the break and on 67 minutes were level with another fine strike. This time it was Mandriou with the fizzing effort from 20 yards.

Both sides created enough chances to win it, but this one went to penalties. James Roberts, James Henry, Josh Ruffels and Josh Ashby all scored for the U's but Rothwell missed the decisive spot-kick.

The group remains wide open with one game remaining.

Oxford are second in Southern Section Group G on four points and face group-toppers MK Dons on November 7.

Fringe players given chance to impress

PLAYERS on the fringe of the Oxford United first team got a welcome run out against Brighton's academy side – but first team coach Derek Fazackerley was frustrated the U's squandered maximum points.

Stopper Scott Shearer, Aaron Martin, Alex Mowatt, Agon Mehmeti and Xemi made rare starts while Mike Williamson, Gino van Kessel and Ryan Ledson all returned to the starting XI.

The U's made eight changes in total and some players were able to get in some much-needed game time.

Youngsters James Roberts and Josh Ashby also came off the bench to enjoy a rare run out.

Fazackerley said: "It was a good workout for all the players that played. It was an opportunity for Xemi, James Roberts and Alex Mowatt.

"It was fantastic to see Josh Ashby back on a football field and acquitting himself well when he came on. They all worked very hard for the side."

He added: "The result's not a disaster by any means but in terms of performance we dropped off the pace a bit in the second half and they've managed to get back into it.

"We started very well and deservedly took the lead. Brighton had one or two little spells in the game but overall we were a little shaper than them.

"We certainly moved the ball around in good areas and scored two good goals. But unfortunately we weren't able to close the game out and have allowed them back into it."

Oxford return to league action when they host AFC Wimbledon on Saturday.

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